FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 MARCH 1986

Assassination of Nabulus Mayor

The West Bank city of Nabulus observed heavy mourning after its mayor, Zafir al-Masri, was shot dead by unidentified assassins 2 March, Jerusalem radio reported. Many of Al-Masri's family from Jordan are expected to attend the funeral 3 March, the radio subsequently noted. A caller told AFP that the faction led by Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, was responsible for Al-Masri's assassination, stating that the "traitor" was executed in accordance with a decision taken by the Fatah Revolutionary Council "in coordination with two other Palestinian organizations." A PFLP spokesman in Damascus claimed responsibility on behalf of his organization, announcing that Al-Masri's execution was a frank warning to anyone who deals with the "Zionist-Jordanian scheme aimed at establishing an alternative PLO leadership," according to Radio Monte Carlo. However, a PLO statement carried by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio condemned Al-Masri's assassination, holding "Zionist enemy organs and agents" responsible. Jordan likewise denounced the killing in a statement broadcast by Amman radio, asserting that such "criminal terrorist acts" are directed "against the Palestine question" and entrench the Israeli occupation. For Israel's part, a Cabinet communique broadcast by Jerusalem radio noted Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' view that Al-Masri's murder is a blow to anyone seeking progress toward calm and understanding. Peres stressed that the assassination will not deter Israel from offering the inhabitants of the occupied territories the opportunity to conduct their own affairs.

Iran-Iraq War

Reporting on the military situation in the Al-Faw area, IRNA announced that Iranian forces killed or wounded 500 Iraqi soldiers in a thrust north of Al-Faw the night of 1 March. However, an Iraqi source cited by INA subsequently reported fresh Iraqi gains, asserting that the Iraqi VII Army captured "important junctions" that will facilitate further advances. As for Iran's offensive in the north, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 2 March claimed that Iran has lost 800 men killed in battles in the Chuwartah and Panjwin areas.

Commenting on the military situation in an interview with the London weekly *AL-DUSTUR*, the Iraqi Air Force commander disclosed that Iraq is preparing new weapons which will be used "especially against the Iranian interior," KUNA reported. An Iranian military source cited by IRNA warned that Iraq is preparing to use a new chemical weapon and the agency also reported that Iraqi warplanes used chemical weapons in a 2 March air attack on the Iranian town of Baneh. In a separate development, Iran's ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni announced in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio that Iran may require women to join the Armed Forces and learn military skills. Not only could they engage in fighting, Khomeyni pointed out, but they could also "double the strength of the men," who have "certain feelings" toward women and are "sensitive" toward them.

Egypt

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif denied "groundless" BBC reports of further incidents in Cairo over the weekend, maintaining that security has been established in all parts of the country and that no incidents have occurred, Cairo radio reported 2 March. The radio had earlier cited Al-Sharif's announcement that the army stormed a camp in the pyramids area 28 February, capturing a number of rebel Central Security Forces personnel. Al-Sharif said the army captured the camp after the rebels opened fire from inside it, and MENA subsequently noted that President Husni Mubarak has authorized the military prosecutor to investigate the incident and determine who was responsible for the presence of arms in the camp. Meanwhile, Mubarak appointed new deputies for Interior Minister Zaki Badr, who announced a reshuffle among top officials in the Interior Ministry responsible for the Central Security Forces and state intelligence, according to Cairo radio. In an interview with *MAYU* cited by MENA, Badr stressed that the Central Security Service will be maintained despite recent events and he also reaffirmed that there is no truth to the rumors about an extension of the conscripts' service. On the other hand, an Egyptian official cited by AFP acknowledged that the authorities had been planning to issue a decree extending the compulsory service of recruits who have shown indiscipline. Meanwhile, Cairo radio announced the lifting of the curfew in Greater Cairo between 0600 and 1800 local time. As for the damage caused by the riots, the tourism minister said the direct losses to tourist installations are estimated at around 100 million Egyptian pounds, but he acknowledged that the full cost to the economy will be much higher, according to MENA. In another development, Cairo's Voice of the Arabs radio castigated the Syrian and Libyan leaders for inciting Egyptians to join the riots and for falsely depicting the situation in Egypt.

Jordan

King Husayn criticized the PLO leadership's lack of credibility in an interview with Kuwait's *AL-SIYASAH*, asserting that the current Palestinian leadership is "very far from the conditions of the people under occupation and is not in touch with the facts." When a leadership emerges that can represent the Palestinian people, Jordan will be at its side, Husayn said, but Jordan cannot cooperate with "one who has no credibility."

Israeli-Lebanese Border Incidents

The IDF killed two DFLP "terrorists" who were trying to cross into northern Israel from Lebanon 1 March, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that the Palestinians apparently intended to attack an Israeli settlement and take hostages. Commenting on the incident in remarks reported by IDF radio, Israel's chief of staff accused the Syrians of assisting the DFLP and he said an investigation will be held into how the DFLP squad had obtained IDF uniforms and Galil rifles. The IDF killed another "terrorist" later the same day during a clash in the northwestern part of Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon, IDF radio disclosed.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 041 *3 March 1986*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

- PFLP Claims Responsibility for Nabulus Mayor's Death *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* .... A 1
  - Abu Nidal Group Claims Killing *[AFP]* .... A 1
  - More on Fatah Claim *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon]* .... A 1
- PLO Source Confirms Contacts With Syria *[Riyadh AL-RIYADH 27 Feb]* .... A 1
- 'Arafat Meets With PLO Officials in Tunis *[SANAA]* .... A 1
- 'Arafat Comments on Talks With King Hassan II *[Rabat]* .... A 2
- PLO Radio Assesses Husayn's AL-SIYASAH Interview *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 2
- 'Arafat on Ties With Turkey, U.S., Jordan *[Istanbul GUNES 25 Feb]* .... A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

- GCC Ministerial Council Holds 18th Session in Riyadh .... C 1
  - UAE, Qatari Ministers Arrive *[SPA]* .... C 1
  - Ministers Continue to Arrive *[SPA]* .... C 1
  - Meetings Begin 1 March *[Riyadh]* .... C 1
  - Agenda Reported *[Riyadh]* .... C 1
  - First Session Ends *[Riyadh]* .... C 1
  - WAKH: Meetings Resume .... C 1
  - Discussions Continue *[SPA]* .... C 2

BAHRAIN

- Amir Receives Kuwaiti Assembly Speaker .... C 2

KUWAIT

- Acting Premier Denies Planned Cabinet Reshuffle .... C 2
- Ministers Deny Plans To Purchase Arms From USSR .... C 2
- INA: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Receives Iraqi Envoy .... C 2
- Action To Be Taken Against Iran in 'Next Few Days' .... C 2
- Paper's Denunciation of Iranian Threats Cited *[WAKH]* .... C 3
- Minister Denies Iraqi Soldiers in Al-Jahra Hospital *[WAKH]* .... C 3

PDRY

- Prime Minister Speaks in Lahij on Economic Tasks .... C 3
- Foreign Minister Meets PRC Envoy; Experts To Return .... C 4
- Justice Minister Returns From Arab Nations Tour .... C 4

QATAR

- 'Unidentified' Plane Attacks Nearby Turkish Tanker .... C 4
  - Air Force Rescues Crew Member *[WAKH]* .... C 4
- Algerian Foreign Minister Departs Doha for Abu Dhabi .... C 4

UAE

- Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi *[WAKH]* .... C 4
  - Departs for YAR *[WAKH]* .... C 5

YAR

- Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives, Begins Talks ..... C 5
  - Conveys Message to President ..... C 5

EGYPT

- Reportage on Mubarak Activities in Wake of Riots ..... D 1
  - 'Surprise' Tour of Area ..... D 1
  - To Speak on Events 9 Mar ..... D 1
  - Meeting With Minister, Police Commanders ..... D 1
- Mitterrand, Saudi Prince 'Abdallah Call Mubarak ..... D 1
- Bahraini, Qatari Amirs Telephone Mubarak ..... D 1
- Mubarak Appoints Deputies to Interior Minister ..... D 2
- Mubarak Receives Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah ..... D 2
- Continuing Reportage on Aftermath of Police Riots ..... D 2
  - People's Assembly, NDP Statements ..... D 2
  - MENA Updates Investigation ..... D 2
  - 15 Accused in Prosecutor's Probe ..... D 3
  - Rumors of Extended Service Possibly True *[AFP]* ..... D 3
  - Minister Cites Mubarak on Police Welfare ..... D 3
  - Interior Minister Reassigns Assistants ..... D 3
  - New Deputies Discuss Posts ..... D 3
- Interior Minister Badr Interviewed on Riots ..... D 4
  - Badr: Libya, Syria Not Implicated *[AFP]* ..... D 4
  - Comments on Central Security Service ..... D 5
- Information Minister Interviewed on Recent Violence ..... D 5
  - Second Interview ..... D 6
  - Stresses Cairo, Other Areas 'Calm' ..... D 6
  - BBC Reports 'Groundless' ..... D 6
- $105 Million Damage to Tourist Installations ..... D 7
  - Tourism Minister Assesses Damage ..... D 7
- NPUG General Secretariat Discusses Recent Events ..... D 7
- NDP Youth Says 'Sedition' Masterminds Must Be Found ..... D 7

IRAQ

- President Receives Chadian Envoy, Message ..... E 1
  - Talks With Delegations Begin ..... E 1
- Lebanese Resistance Cables Saddam Husayn ..... E 1
- Trade Minister Confers With SFRY Official ..... E 1
- President Cables Swedish King on Palme Death ..... E 1
- Ramadan Addresses Popular Army Fighters ..... E 1
- Iraqi Air Force Chief Interviewed on 'New Weapons' *[KUNA]* ..... E 1
- Iranian Northern Offensive Termed 'Insignificant ..... E 2
- Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran ..... E 2
  - Commander on Al-Faw Progress ..... E 2
  - Third Phase Begun in Al-Faw ..... E 2
  - 'Strategic Areas' Controlled' ..... E 3
  - Important Positions 'Liberated' ..... E 3
  - Important Junctions 'Liberated' ..... E 3
  - Forces Prepare for New Advances ..... E 3
  - 450 Iranians Killed in Purge ..... E 4
  - Communique No 2,131 Issued ..... E 4
  - Communique No 2,132 Issued ..... E 5
  - Communique No 2,133 Issued ..... E 6

JORDAN

- AL-SIYASAH Interviews King Husayn on Speech *[Kuwait 1 Mar]* ..... F 1

- Reaction to Assassination of Israeli Mayor Reported F 3
  - Official Spokesman Comments F 3
  - AL-RA'Y Terms Act 'Barbaric' *[3 Mar]* F 4

LEBANON

- Karami Criticizes Arabs Stand on South G 1
- Al-Huss Against Party Security Force G 1
- Junblatt Discusses Mideast at CPSU Congress G 1
- Paqraduni Reviews Developments, Ties With Syria *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 1
  - Further on Interview *[Radio Free Lebanon]* G 2
- Phalangist Party Announces New Appointments *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 2
- Army Commander 'Awn Cited on Role of Military G 2
- Clashes Reported Along Mountain Combat Lines G 2
- Rocket Fire Wounds 6; Armenian Leader Killed *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 3
- 550 Beirut Apartments Rented for 'Arafat *[Voice of Lebanon]* G 3
- Fighting on Beirut Lines; Crossings Closed G 3
- Israelis, Lahd Transfer Detainees to Israel G 3
- Resistance Attacks Lahd, Israeli Positions G 3

SYRIA

- People's Assembly Meets; Adjourns to 5 Mar H 1
- Report Issued on Nabulus Mayor's Assassination H 1
- Al-Kasm To Pay Official Visit to Turkey 3-7 March H 1
- Egyptian Regime Faces 'Armed Popular Uprising' H 1

ISRAEL

- Nabulus Arab Mayor Al-Masri Murdered 2 Mar I 1
  - Nabulus Town Council Meets I 1
  - 'Violent Demonstrations' Follow I 1
  - Cabinet Communique on Murder I 2
  - Government Officials React I 2
  - Goren Comments I 2
  - Chief of Staff Comments I 3
  - Frayj Sees 'Serious Ramifications' I 3
  - 'Israel' Blamed for Murder I 3
  - Arab Candidates Reconsidering I 3
  - Zarru Denies Candidacy, Departs I 3
  - Press Analyzes Ramifications I 4
  - Arabic Radio Commentary I 4
- Peres Not To Attend Portugal's Soares Swearing-in I 5
- Peres Criticizes Reaction to Egyptian Events I 5
- Mubarak Expresses Appreciation for Peres' Support *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 2 Mar]* I 5
- Shamir on Al-Asad Intentions, Al-Masri Murder I 5
- Maj Gen Peled: Syria Preparing for Confrontation I 5
- IDF Kills 2 Terrorists Trying To Infiltrate North I 5
  - Army Sources Say Syria Responsible I 6
  - Moshe Levi on Security Zone Activity I 7
  - Another Killed Late 1 Mar I 7
- Agriculture Minister Pays 'Secret' Visit to PRC I 7
  - Foreign Ministry Denies Report I 7
  - Nehamkin Calls Report 'Rubbish' *[MA'ARIV 2 Mar]* I 7

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

- OAU Council of Ministers Continues Discussions P 1
  - 'Appalled' by U.S. UNITA Aid *[KNA]* P 1
  - Further on U.S. Policy *[AFP]* P 1
  - ANC, SWAPO Activities Supported *[PANA]* P 1

French Action in Chad Not Condemned *[Libreville]* .... P 2
Solidarity With Libya Declared *[PANA]* .... P 2
Ghali on Chadian-Libyan Dispute *[MENA]* .... P 2
Management 'Deficiencies' Revealed *[APS]* .... P 3
Role of Liberation Committee Discussed *[PANA]* .... P 3
Agriculture Issue Discussed *[PANA]* .... P 3
UN FAO Reports on African Food Shortage *[AFP]* .... P 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Further on Messaadia's Activities in Moscow .... Q 1
Meeting With Castro .... Q 1
Return to Algiers .... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi on Proclamation of 'People's Power' .... Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi on 'Sovereignty, Genuine Independence' .... Q 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses General People's Congress .... Q 2
JANA Cites Al-Qadhdhafi on Reason for U.S. 'Anger' .... Q 2
Al-Turayki Sends Message to Security Council on Chad .... Q 2
Further on Message .... Q 3
JANA Challenges Mitterrand .... Q 3
Shultz Meeting With Chadian Counterpart Noted .... Q 3
General People's Committee's Term Ends .... Q 3
New Libyan Cabinet Reportedly To Be Formed 'Soon' *[Abu Dhabi]* .... Q 4
U.S. Aircraft Carriers Move Toward Libyan Coast .... Q 4

SUDAN

'Source' Says 'Ethnic Plot' Participants To Be Tried .... Q 4
Defense Minister Denies Presence of U.S. AWACS .... Q 4
National Alliance, Garang Reach Agreement .... Q 4

TUNISIA

Delegate to CPSU Congress Returns From Moscow .... Q 5

W. SAHARA

SDAR President Addresses Anniversary Parade .... Q 5
Polisario Leader's Hold Press Conference .... Q 5
SDAR President Holds News Conference .... Q 5
SPLA Fighters Launch 'Heavy' Raid at Ler *[Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army]* .... Q 6
Rumors of Garang's Running for Election Denied *[Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army]* .... Q 6

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

Border Cooperation Communique Signed With Tanzania .... R 1
Finance Minister Meets With Ugandan Counterpart *[PANA]* .... R 1

UGANDA

Museveni, France's Guy Penne Hold Talks *[AFP]* .... R 1
France Ready To Resume Aid *[AFP]* .... R 1
Museveni Appoints Four More Ministers to Cabinet *[AFP]* .... R 1
Army Prepares for Battle in Northern Town *[THE STANDARD 28 Feb]* .... R 2

Museveni Interviewed on Country's Future *[SUNDAY NATION 2 March]* ..... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Rally Statement Lists Weaponry Captured From Libya ..... S 1
AFP Reports Arrival of French-Chartered Transports ..... S 1
    AFP on French Military Presence ..... S 1

GABON

Omar Bongo Returns From Tunisia, Lauds Relations ..... S 2

ZAIRE

State Commissioner Seeks Support for Fiscal Plan ..... S 2

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

Malian President Traore Arrives 28 Feb, Comments ..... T 1
Cooperation Talks With Nigeria Conclude ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Interior Minister Announces Reopening of Borders ..... T 1
Bulgarian Deputy Minister Departs for Cameroon ..... T 2

SENEGAL

UN Secretary General Arrives for Visit ..... T 2
    Working Session With Diouf ..... T 3
    Concludes Visit ..... T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Returns From CPSU Congress 28 Feb ..... U 1
ANGOP Reports RSA Troop Actions, Overflights ..... U 1
UNITA Major, Others Killed in FAPLA Operation ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

Government Official Meets ANC in Lusaka *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 1

LESOTHO

Jonathan Blames U.S., U.K., RSA, FRG for Coup *[Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL 28 Feb-6 Mar]* ..... U 1
Military Council Members Meet Political Leaders ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Forces Capture MNR Base 2 Mar *[AFP]* ..... U 2
    Further on Capture of Base ..... U 3
88 'Bandits' Killed in Recent Operations ..... U 3

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Undecided About Members Accused of Spying *[SAPA]* .... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Government To Take No Action Against Mabuza Visit .... U 3
    Mabuza-ANC Talks Under Way *[Umtata]* .... U 4
    Talks Conclude *[Umtata]* .... U 4
Cape Town City Council To Establish Civic Patrol .... U 4
Port Elizabeth Council Vetoes Decision on Beaches .... U 4
NP MPC Calls for Dropping Private School Quotas .... U 5
East London Council Scraps Residential Segregation *[Umtata]* .... U 5
PFP's Suzman Says Power Transfer Not Imminent .... U 5
Boraine 'Almost Definitely' Joining UDF .... U 6
Seven Suspected Terrorists Killed in Guguletu .... U 6
    Police Issue Statement .... U 7
Police Vehicles Stoned; Man Killed, Woman Injured .... U 7
Two Trade Unionists Arrested in Durban .... U 7
Mamelodi Mourners Defying Police Order Dispersed .... U 8
Magistrate Alleges Assault by Bophuthatswana Police .... U 8
Hand Grenade Thrown at Chief's House Near Zeerust .... U 8
Burned Body of Man Found in Walmer Township .... U 8
3M Workers Strike To Support U.S. Counterparts .... U 8
Wolwekrans Miners Go on Strike Over Manager .... U 9
332 People in Detention; Total Stands at 7,156 .... U 9
Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports .... U 9
    Late 28 Feb .... U 9
    Early 1 Mar .... U 10
    Late 1 Mar .... U 10
    Early 2 Mar .... U 11
    Late 2 Mar .... U 11
    Early 3 Mar .... U 11
Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems .... U 11

ZAMBIA

White RSA Man Arrested With Rifle, Mine *[Umtata]* .... U 14

PFLP Claims Responsibility for Nabulus Mayor's Death

JN021125 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] In Amman, Tahir Kan'an, minister of occupied territory affairs, has condemned the assassination of Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri. He described the assassination as a cowardly act perpetrated by agents of Judiazation and occupation in the West Bank. Jordanian Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib also condemned this assassination.

In Tunis, we learned from WAFA that the PLO and Fatah leaderships issued two statements condemning the assassination of Nabulus mayor. They considered Zafir al-Masri one of the martyrs of the Palestine question.

We learned from a PFLP spokesman in Damascus that his front is responsible for the assassination and that the Gaza Guevara group carried out the operation. The spokesman said the execution of Zafir al-Masri is a frank warning to anyone who dares to sympathize or deal with the Zionist-Jordanian scheme aimed at establishing an alternative PLO leadership that accepts liquidationist plans.

Khalil al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, who is in Amman, said that the killers of Zafir al-Masri will not escape the Palestinian people's severe punishment for committing this cowardly action.

Abu Nidal Group Claims Killing

NC021137 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 2 (AFP) — A caller claiming to represent the Fatah Revolutionary Council led by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] claimed responsibility Sunday for the slaying of Nablus Mayor Zafir al-Masri.

In a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE headquarters here, the spokesman said the Abu Nidal faction had "carried out a death sentence against the traitor Zafir al-Masri conforming to a decision taken by the Central Committee of the Fatah Revolutionary Council in coordination with two other Palestinian organizations."

The spokesman, an Arab-speaker who said he was calling from Beirut, did not spell out the names of these two other organizations.

He said the assassination was meant to be a "warning" to "traitor" Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the mainstream Palestine Liberation Organization, as well as to King Husayn of Jordan and to Mosad, the Israeli intelligence service.

He also warned members of the slain mayor's family to end all political activity in "Jordan as well as in Palestine."

He referred specifically to Jordan's foreign minister, Tahir al-Masri, and 'Awwi al-Masri, a former Jordanian minister of public works.

In Amman, the PLO condemned the killing as cowardly and praised Mr. Al-Masri as a martyr.

More on Fatah Claim

NC021754 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] In a telephone call to the Voice of Lebanon radio this evening, an unidentified person claimed responsibility on behalf of the Nasir Ibrahim 'Abd al-'Aziz group of the Palestinian Liberation Front, the Fatah movement, Beirut, for the assassination of Zafir al-Masri, the mayor of Nabulus. He warned that the organization will attack anyone who adopts the capitulationist agentry line pursued by the Nabulus mayor. The spokesman in particular warned Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir Hikmat al-Masri and 'Awni al-Masri.

PLO Source Confirms Contacts With Syria

GF281516 Riyadh AL-RIYADH in Arabic 27 Feb 86 p 25

[Text] In a statement to *AL-RIYADH*, an informed Palestinian source has affirmed that contacts have been intensified between Syrian officials and the Fatah movement. The source said that the latest of these contacts was made last week between Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and two Syrian senior officials and that the talks lasted 12 hours.

The source said that the venue and date of the PNC session to unify Palestinian organizations have not been determined yet. The source added that the PFLP, led by George Habash, has not responded to date to the Soviet proposals in this regard. Such proposals were forwarded to the Palestinian factions by Moscow a month ago although contacts have actually begun between some factions and the Fatah movement.

A meeting that was held early this month between Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] on behalf of Fatah and Yasir 'abd Rabbuh on behalf of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine emphaiszed the importance of resuming the dialogue among Palestinian factions to restore PLO unity.

'Arafat Meets With PLO Officials in Tunis

GF021853 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, began consultations in Tunis yesterday with a number of Palestinian leaders who are present in Tunis to hold consultations on the next phase of the Palestinian move following Jordanian King Husayn's decision to discontinue political coordination with the PLO.

Informed Palestinian sources have told QNA that these consultations are designed to learn about the outcome of the missions currently being carried out by a number of Palestinian officials in some Arab and foreign capitals, including the contacts which have been made with Palestinian opposition leaders. This comes as part of the efforts designed to reorganize the ranks of the Palestinian organizations. The sources stated that Brother Abu 'Ammar will inform the Palestinian leaders on the full details of the recent dialogue in Amman which failed to reach a formula for the joint move with Jordan based on the UN Security Council Resolution 242, and of his contacts in Cairo, Baghdad, Bucharest, Ankara, and Marrakesh which dealt with the Palestinian issue in general.

'Arafat Comments on Talks With King Hassan II

LD282151 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee left Morocco this evening following the private visit he paid to our country, during which he was received by His Majesty King Hassan II. At the Menara-Marrakech airport, Mr Yasir 'Arafat spoke to our correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO leader, there are developments on the Arab arena concerning the Middle East issue in the light of your contacts with kings and presidents of Arab countries. What is new concerning this question?

['Arafat] Today and yesterday I had the pleasant opportunity to meet his majesty the king; we had lengthy meetings, during which I discussed with his majesty various aspects of the Palestinian question in the light of these new developments. I informed his majesty the king of all the details I have concerning this matter; I listened to his opinions and advice. It is agreed to continue these contacts on all levels. On this occasion, I would like to say that the important thing is the stand of brotherly Morocco, its people and king, toward the Palestinian question, this principled and firm stand in support of the jihad and struggle of the Palestinian people. The liberation of Jerusalem, the first of the two qiblahs and third holiest mosque will be very soon, God willing. As you know, his majesty the king is chairman of the Arab summit, the chairman of the Islamic summit, and the chairman of the Jerusalem Committee; therefore it was my duty to inform him about all these developments which took place concerning our Palestinian question.

Once again, I take advantage of this opportunity to express, on my behalf and on behalf of our Palestinian people, our warmest congratulations to his majesty on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his accession to the throne.

We pray God Almighty to protect him for his people and for our Arab and Islamic nation. On this occasion, I say that these developments are not only political developments; there are great dangers which surround the blessed Al-Aqsa mosque due to the continuous Zionist violations against these Islamic and Christian shrines, which are as you know one of the main points which we raised during the meeting of Jerusalem Committee last month.

We hope, God willing, to succeed in this matter with all our efforts as an Arab and Islamic nation. [End recording]

PLO Radio Assesses Husayn's AL-SIYASAH Interview

JN022130 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1736 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Brothers, the intensified Jordanian news media campaign against the PLO is, of course, based on the speech made by Jordanian King Husayn in Amman in the middle of last month in which he announced the suspension of political coordination with the PLO. Of course, we have to say something, but this does not mean that we want to maintain this intensified campaign by engaging in vituperations. We gave this method up a long time ago. Furthermore, we do not believe in media campaigns and cannot engage in them. As people experienced in true democracy, we strongly believe in dialogue and logic in tackling any political dispute with any fraternal or friendly quarter.

The reply to King Husayn's speech is a very important and delicate subject. It must not be emotional under any circumstances. At any rate, the reply to the king's speech is the prerogative of the PLO leadership which, since the speech, has exercised self-restraint and patience stemming from self-confidence.

Therefore, until the PLO leadership's reply is made known, our information line these days will be to bide time and avoid replying to the Jordanian news media campaign — a line which the PLO leadership has emphasized with clear and specific instructions. No doubt, we on the Voice of the PLO radio adhere to this line. However, despite our commitment to this line, profound belief in its soundness, and great confidence in its feasibility, we see no reason why we cannot discuss some of the things that King Husayn told the Kuwaiti paper in the interview with the paper's chief editor, Ahmad al-Jarallah, who chose questions that were not at all innocent.

King Husayn believes that the PLO leadership's adherence to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination is an expression of the Palestinian leadership's desire to rule rather than to regain the land. The king describes the Palestinians' demand for their legitimate rights as to creation of impossibilities. We do not exactly know if there is anything in international law or human norms that says that the right of self-determination, which is a sacred right for all world nations, means that those who are demanding this right are seeking authority. The Palestinians will not achieve their rights if they do not uphold thesacred right of self-determination. The Palestinians definitely have inalienable just rights. These are natural, legal, political, and human rights. The Palestinians' restoration of their legitimate rights is only possible through the restoration of the national land. And the restoration of the land is only possible through effective struggle in the context of a political entity that has clearly defined features and policies, that is, the entity which the Palestinian people have created through their great sacrifices and hard struggle so that it will exercise independent decisionmaking, liberate its national will, and lead its people's struggle without any tutelage, subservience, or containment.

We do not know if these obvious facts need to be discussed. It is obvious that it is not possible to separate between the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, the occupied Palestinian land, and the

PLO, which is fighting for the achievement of our full right to regain the land and establish the independent Palestinian state. The Palestine question is an indivisible whole. It is the cause of a people with a clear national identity who enjoy full inalienable natural, human, political, and legitimate rights — rights which are recognized by the overhelming majority of the international community.

Needless to say, an independent Palestinian body should demand and fight for these rights and base its national plans accordingly. This does not mean that the Arab role here is unimportant or not required by the Palestinian people and their sole, legitimate representative, the PLO. It just means that the PLO is dutybound to be the main claimant of the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people. This, in fact, is the mainreason for its existence and continuation. Our people believe and are fully confident that their sole, legitimate representative — the PLO with its legitimate leadership — is firmly pursuing this course and that it will not abandon its basic, national principles. Adherence to these basic principles does not mean that it is seeking authority, which will be its absolute right when the independent Palestinian state is established. This point cannot be recorded against the Palestinian leadership, but for it.

There is another very important point which must be mentioned. The Palestinian leadership's adherence to the right of self-determination means its rejection of any plan that does not lead to an independent Palestinian state. This includes the plan of the alternative homeland, namely Jordan, which was proposed by the Israeli enemy. If the Palestinian leadership's aim is authority, it can rule in the alternative homeland, Jordan, in the sense that the seat of authority is the same whether it is here or there. Is not the seat of authority the dream of those who seek to rule?

'Arafat on Ties With Turkey, U.S., Jordan

NC281118 Istanbul GUNES in Turkish 25 Feb 86 p 8

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by *GUNES* correspondent Sencer Gunessoy in Baghdad; date not given]

[Text] [Gunessoy] Mr 'Arafat, would you please explain the goal of your visit to Turkey and tell us if you expect anything from our country? Will you be presenting any proposals to our head of state, Kenan Evren, or to the Turkish Government?

['Arafat] First of all, let me say that this will not be my first trip to Turkey. As you know, I have been there before. This will be my second official visit and I am quite happy about it, as we are not alone in our struggle. The Turks are our brothers. When you look at it this way, you cannot ask a man why he is visiting his brothers. I will be discussing many issues with his excellency. First of all, I will dwell on the hardships inflicted upon my people, who are living under Israeli occupation. I will also touch on the efforts being made to give holy places a Jewish character, and will refer to attempts by the Israeli military junta, including those of Kahane, Sharon, and other terrorists, to blow up the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Several other questions will be raised as well. Turkey and the PLO are members of the mediation committee set up by the Islamic conference to work for a cessation of the Iran-Iraq war. Moreover, we seek the support of his excellency and that of the Turkish Government and people in the Palestinian struggle for justice.

[Gunessoy] Do you believe that Turkey can play an important role in creating a better and more peaceful situation in the Middle East?

['Arafat] Certainly. Turkey enjoys a sound position in the Islamic world, Europe, the United States, and elsewhere. Therefore, it can play a significant part. His excellency served as deputy chairman of the Islamic conference held last summer.

[Gunessoy] In a recent interview with Mehmet Ali Birand, you were quoted as saying: "I see a light at the end of the tunnel." What sort of light were you talking about?

['Arafat] I see Jerusalem at the end of the tunnel, a free Jerusalem, a Jerusalem where all of us, Muslim and Christian alike, may worship.

[Gunessoy] Are you satisfied with Turkey's Middle East policy?

['Arafat] Yes, certainly. But I hope it will be a more active one in the future.

[Gunessoy] Do you feel that Turkey should be more independent, or do you believe that — as a member of NATO — it is doing what it can?

['Arafat] I do not look at Turkey from this angle. I look at it from a more important persepctive. I see it as a member of the Islamic Conference Organization, a great power in the Middle East, and a country with a significant role in the United Nations. Yes, I look at it from all these angles. In addition, the Palestinian issue is in the hearts and minds of the Turkish people.

[Gunessoy] Richard Murphy, the U.S. special envoy in the Middle East, told Turkish authorities during a recent visit to Ankara that they could play a special part in bringing peace to the Middle East. Could we deduce from this that he meant "Turkey can persuade the PLO to recognize Israel and accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338?" Can you think in those terms?

['Arafat] First of all, let me point out that I do not care what Murphy said, as the current U.S. Administration is totally committed to Israel's policies. You know that there is a strategic agreement between the United States and Israel. The United States provides it with unlimited military, economic, political, and financial support. Through this assistance, it is siding with the military junta of Israel, which is the aggressor. What is more, they want us to accept Resolutions 242 and 338. Why only these two? I have expressed my readiness to recognize not only these two resolutions, but every UN resolution, as they provide for international equality and constitute a unified whole. International equality is indivisible, so why do they refer only to these two resolutions while ignoring the others? This runs counter to the UN Charter, the principle of international equality, and the conscience of the world public.

[Gunessoy] Turkey is beginning to establish its own defense industry this year with economic and technical help from the West. The arms that will be manufactured will be exported to Middle Eastern countries. Do you think this will have an adverse effect on Turkey's relations with states in the region?

['Arafat] It will affect the entire region. Why shouldn't we buy arms from our brothers instead of the great powers?

[Gunessoy] But isn't it true that selling weapons to certain countries, particularly Iran, may put other states in a difficult position?

['Arafat] No. That will not happen tomorrow; we are talking about the future. I hope that through common efforts, we will find a solution soon to the Iran-Iraq conflict, which has proved harmful to both Iran and Palestine.

[Gunessoy] Would you care to assess the statement that King Husayn made on television? In light of it, we got the impression that the 11 February Amman agreement had been terminated. King Husayn is searching for a new road to peace in the Middle East. What is his objective?

['Arafat] You should ask me that some other time, because we are still studying King Husayn's message.

[Gunessoy] It seems that relations between the PLO and Jordan have been ruined in the wake of King Husayn's statement.

['Arafat] Relations between Palestine and Jordan are of historic significance, and cannot be mared by passing incidents. We are trying to broaden our ties still further.

[Gunessoy] In light of these fresh developments, what is your new policy toward finding a just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian issue? Will you be looking for a new balance of power in the Middle East or do you intend to launch an international diplomatic offensive for a moderate solution?

['Arafat] We have submitted our proposals for a settlement, and have asked King Husayn to discuss them with the United States. We have three formulas for a just solution, but the Americans do not want a settlement. They insist that we accept only Resolutions 242 and 338, and not the others. They do not agree that the Palestinian people should determine their own future. Self-determination is as basic a principle for the United States as it is for the United Nations. While the United States recognizes the right of Falkland Islanders and Malawians to decide their own fate, it stubbornly refuses to do the same for the 5 million Palestinians. We cannot understand this. It is the root of the Middle East crisis: The aggressive attitude of Israel's military junta, the unlimited support it receives from the United States, and America's refusal to acknowledge the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Everyone should realize that we are not American Indians; we scorned the armies of the crusaders. These areas are our motherland.

[Gunessoy] But time is running out.

['Arafat] Yes, that is true; time is precious indeed. However, this is our fate, and no one can escape his fate. As you know, the crusaders launched their first assault from Turkey. They attacked but were repulsed. No one can escape his fate, and this is ours. We will continue to fight for justice, and sooner or later we will be free. We are not alone.

[Gunessoy] Do you have a message for the Turkish people?

['Arafat] We need your help to get back to our homeland. We can do this through a common effort.

GCC Ministerial Council Holds 18th Session in Riyadh

UAE, Qatari Ministers Arrive

GF011040 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1020 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — The GCC foreign ministers have begun to arrive in Riyadh to participate in the meetings of the GCC Ministerial Council's 18th session, which is expected to begin later today.

Rashid 'Aodallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, have arrived at King Khalid International Airport.

They were received by Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; 'Abdallah Bisharan, GCC secretary general; 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, chief of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry; the assistant GCC secretary general; and the UAE and Qatari ambassadors to the Kingdom.

Ministers Continue to Arrive

GF011228 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1205 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 1 Mar (SPA) — Shaykh Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister; Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs; and Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, arrived in Riyadh this afternoon.

Meetings Begin 1 March

GF011520 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1430 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The foreign ministers of the GCC countries began the meetings of the 18th session of the GCC Ministerial Council at 1630 today at the GCC Secretariat headquarters in Riyadh. The meetings will last 2 days.

Agenda Reported

GF011928 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpt] In a speech at the beginning of the opening meeting of the 18th session of the GCC Ministerial Council, Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, stressed the importance of this session as it comes after the holding of the Sixth GCC Supreme Council in Muscat and following dangerous developments in the Iraq-Iran war which represents a continuous threat to the region's security and stability.

The meeting's agenda includes the stages of implementing the resolutions passed by their majesties and their highnesses the leaders of the GCC at the sixth session of the Supreme Council in Muscat, and discussion of current developments in the region. The meeting will also discuss many important economic issues within the framework of economic integration among the GCC states and the recommendations of the various ministerial committees which met after the sixth session of the Supreme Council, including the recommendations of the oil; transport; and post, telephones, and telegraph ministers. The agenda of the Ministerial Council also includes a detailed report on negotiations with the EEC and other economic groups within the framework of the economic integration march of the GCC states.

First Session Ends

LD012244 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The GCC Ministerial Council ended its first meeting this evening. Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the current session, stated that during this session, the council discussed all Gulf issues, and that it particularly dwelled on the recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

QNA said that the greater part of this session's meetings was devoted to hearing a detailed report on the results of talks which his royal highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, conducted in Baghdad and Damascus, and the results of contacts that were made recently with all parties concerned with the Iraq-Iran war, and the results of the talks concerning this issue [words indistinct].

WAKH: Meetings Resume

GF021628 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 2 Mar (WAKH) — GCC foreign ministers resumed their 18th session here today.

Qatari news agency said that the session discussed current developments in the region in the light of recent visits by the Saudi and Kuwaiti foreign ministers to Damascus and Baghdad in addition to GCC contacts with the combatants.

The foreign ministers also discussed the security situation in the region and developments in Democratic Yemen following recent events in that country.

The discussion was an extention of a closed meeting held by the GCC foreign ministers last night, QNA quoted informed sources as saying. The meeting lasted for three and a half hours.

The Ministerial Council set up a subcommittee to discuss important economic developments in the region and other various issues.

The committee discussed economic integration among the AGCC and a memo on implementation of different economic resolutions approved at the sixth summit in Muscat as well as recommendation of ministers of transport and communications.

The committee also discussed recommendations of the Trade Cooperation Committee, the annual report on AGCC specification and measurement body in addition to a general

Secretariat memo regarding meetings held between the officials of the General Secretariat and heads of chambers of commerce.

Detailed reports on contacts between the AGCC, the EEC and other economic groups in addition to the recommendations of the first meeting of AGCC education ministers were also discussed.

The Ministerial Council is expected to resume its 18th session at 5:00 pm this evening.

Discussions Continue

GF030856 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0840 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Mar (SPA) — The GCC Ministerial Council resumed its 18th session which began the day before yesterday. The GCC foreign ministers held a session today at the General Secretariat to continue discussions of the issues on the agenda which include a review of the developments in the region, stages needed for implementing results of the Muscat summit, and some economic subjects.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Kuwaiti Assembly Speaker

GF281108 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0620 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Manama, 28 Feb (WAKH) — Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifah this morning received Ahmad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'dun, speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, who is currently visiting Manama.

During the meeting, Al-Sa'dun conveyed to the amir of Bahrain the greetings of the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, and exchanged friendly talks with his highness.

The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Ambassador to Bahrain Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Mubaraki.

Al-Sa'dun arrived in Manama 2 days ago on a private visit.

KUWAIT

Acting Premier Denies Planned Cabinet Reshuffle

LD020951 Kuwait KUNA in English 0800 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 2 (KUNA) — Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Sunday denied reports of a planned Cabinet reshuffle in Kuwait. Shaykh Sabah affirmed in reply to a question by daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that "we do not contemplate such a reshuffle at present" and advised against giving attention to such rumours that do not serve the public interest.

Ministers Deny Plans To Purchase Arms From USSR

LD010938 Kuwait KUNA in English 0818 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 1 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah has denied that his government was intending to purchase arms at present.

He told daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* published Saturday that news agencies reports in this respect were not correct.

Meanwhile, Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah denied what the Egyptian Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported that a tentative agreement was reached for trading Kuwaiti oil shipments for Soviet weapons.

He told the same paper that the report is incorrect, adding that no such negotiations were made during his presence in Moscow recently. Furthermore, "negotiating arms deals does not fall within my jurisdiction", he noted.

MENA had quoted press sources in Paris as saying that negotiations are currently under way between Kuwait and the Soviet Union to conclude a new arms deal within the Kuwaiti Government's policy of diversifying sources of armaments.

Arabic-language magazine *AL-MUSTAKBAL* published in Paris Saturday, quoted Gulf sources as saying that Shaykh 'Ali had initialed a tentative agreement in Moscow on trading Kuwaiti oil for Soviet weapons.

INA: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Receives Iraqi Envoy

JN011013 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0943 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Mar (INA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar, Iraq's ambassador to Kuwait. The Iraqi ambassador briefed Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on current war developments and the victories achieved by the Iraqi forces over the Iranian invaders. They also reviewed the strong fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries.

Action To Be Taken Against Iran in 'Next Few Days'

LD011342 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 1 Mar (KUNA) — Chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Relations Committee, Deputy Jasim al-'Awn, said today that an official and popular move will be made within the next few days to confront the Iranian threats toward Kuwait and the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council states.

Deputy al-'Awn told reporters that the committee met the acting prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, at the request of the National Assembly speaker, Ahmad Al-Sa'dun. He said that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad explained to the committee the developments of the Iraq-Iran war as well as the recent threats, both unofficial and official, by Iran towards Kuwait and the Gulf Cooperation Council states.

He pointed out that Kuwait is closely following the developments of the war in the wake of the recent Iranian attack on the territories of fraternal Iraq. He stressed that the internal situation in the country was good and reassuring particularly since the Kuwait people are rallying around their leadership and stand by it in good and bad times and against everyone who tries to destabilize the situation in this secure country.

He also stressed that Kuwait will not allow any foreign forces to cross its borders and that the Armed Forces are carrying out their duty in protecting the land and sea borders.

Paper's Denunciation of Iranian Threats Cited

GF021016 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 2 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 2 Mar (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* today denounces Iranian threats against Kuwait. The paper says that since the Iranian offensive on Al-Faw began on 9 February, "Tehran has conspicuously escalated its hostile attitudes toward the entire Gulf region."

The paper says that lately Iran has exploited the oil issue as propaganda and as a naive justification for its aggression and threats, as if Kuwait is responsible for the collapse of the oil prices and is consequently responsible for the imbalance of the entire world economy.

The paper wonders, "where is Kuwait's responsibility in the collapse of oil prices and the stagnation of the world economy? If Kuwait was the only party which supplied the world with oil we would bear full responsibility. If Saudi Arabia was the only OPEC country which controlled production and prices, then we would forgive Iran its threats."

The paper affirms that the language of threats is rejected and that we will not accept conditions concerning our stands and policies being dictated to us.

Minister Denies Iraqi Soldiers in Al-Jahra Hospital

GF021830 Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 2 (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Public Health and Planning Minister Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Awadi denied Iranian reports alleging that a number of Iraqi soldiers are receiving treatment in Al-Jahra Hospital.

In a statement today Dr al-'Awadi said Tehran radio's allegation is baseless. He added there were no wounded soldiers from either side being treated in any Kuwaiti hospital.

PDRY

Prime Minister Speaks in Lahij on Economic Tasks

GF010553 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A large rally was held this morning in Yafi' District in Lahij Governorate to celebrate the great triumph achieved by the YSP and the masses of people in confronting and quelling the abortive coupist plot led by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his gang on the ill-fated 13 January 1986.

The rally was attended by the brothers Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Sayf Munassar, member of the YSP Political Bureau and second secretary of the YSP organization committee in Lahij Governorate; Naji 'Uthman, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Executive Bureau office of the people's local council in Lahij Governorate; and a number of YSP Central Committee members, ministers, governorate officials, and a crowd of citizens of the district and its subdistricts.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man delivered a speech on behalf of the party and the state in which he conveyed the greetings of the YSP Central Committee and its Political Bureau to the masses of the district on this occasion. He pointed out that this festival which embodies [words indistinct] in the future that is being built under YSP leadership represents at the same time a call for a new revolutionary form of relations between the party and the masses. He affirmed that the great masses of the district attending this rally symbolize support for the leadership and the party policy, and a clear example of the committed attitude which, among other things, embodies a growing political and class awareness of the strategy of the party, the aims and principles of its struggle, and the spirit of sacrifice in defending these aims and principles.

He said: The strugglers of this district have always been in the first line of defense of this revolution and a great number of the sons of this district have the honor of martyrdom in the defense of the party line and great principles. He added that this district has assumed a unique position in making and maintaining our nationalist progressive system and in protecting it from the enemies' plots and the trend of deviation. In their gallant stands, the sons of this district are an example of the strugglers who have always established the firm base for launching our revolutionary experience.

He pointed out that today's meeting is held while the signs of victory proudly appear on the brows of the toilers among our Yemeni people, now that the new conspirators who planned the 13 January coupist attempt under the leadership of the schemer 'Ali Nasir Muhammad have fallen. He said that what imparts profound significance to this victory is that it toppled the last arrow in the quiver of the imperialist and reactionary forces hostile to our people and our progressive system.

He reviewed the wrong practices and methods used by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on various levels, and the dimensions of the abortive coupist plot which he carried out, the acts of mass murder of party leaders and cadres resulting from it, and the damage caused to economic and other installations. He affirmed that our party — which is well-versed in struggle — and our people — who gained experience from the battles waged in defending their achievements and gains — together with their defensive and security institutions, were able to destroy the conspiracy at the appropriate time. They proved that our people and party are stronger than all conspiracies, even if the conspirator is head of the leadership.

The brother prime minister spoke of the future economic and social tasks. He said: The consequences of the conspiracy require us to reconsider priorities in all our economic plans. So priority is given to repairing the damage caused by the conspiracy, implementing vital projects of strategic importance to the economy, and paying increasing attention to the production sectors in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, industry, and construction.

He remarked that attention to production must become a central issue in the activity of the YSP organizations in the governorates, districts, and subdistricts, until the degree of success made in achieving a high level of production becomes the criterion for the effectiveness and success of political activity among the masses. He said that the economic issue, the major challenge within our party's struggle, must be dealt with in connection with all other challenges and with a perspective that embodies the dialectical relationship among the links of the whole revolutionary process.

Foreign Minister Meets PRC Envoy; Experts To Return

GF011820 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, today met with Comrade Tang Yong, PRC ambassador in Aden. During the meeting Brother al-Dali explained to the ambassador the dimensions of the unsuccessful coupist conspiracy which was planned and led by the schemer 'Ali Nasir and his gang.

The comrade ambassador affirmed his country's stand in supporting the PDRY, which is based on nonintervention in one's internal affairs. He expressed regret at the martyrdom of a number of the historical leaders of the YSP. He asserted the continued development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries and peoples. He also asserted that all the agreements between the two countries will be implemented, including the return of the PRC physicians and experts who work in the PDRY.

Justice Minister Returns From Arab Nations Tour

GF010619 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, minister of justice and awqaf, returned to Aden this evening after a tour of some fraternal countries. During this tour, he conveyed written messages from Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, to King Husayn of Jordan; Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba; Mauritanian President Maayouia Ould Taya; SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz; and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

QATAR

'Unidentified' Plane Attacks Nearby Turkish Tanker

GF021208 Doha QNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 2 Mar (QNA) — A Turkish oil tanker with the name *Atlas I* was subjected to an attack by an unidentified plane today at an area 82 miles northeast of Qatar. A responsible source has told QNA that the attack killed one person and wounded another in the 142,000-ton capacity tanker.

Air Force Rescues Crew Member

GF021829 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, March 2 (WAKH) — Rescue teams from the Qatari Amiri Air Forces rescued a crew member of the Turkish oil tanker hit this morning in the Gulf way waters. The injured Turkish crew member has been taken to Hamad General Hospital here for treatment.

Algerian Foreign Minister Departs Doha for Abu Dhabi

GF270844 Doha QNA in Arabic 0733 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Doha, 27 Feb (QNA) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi left Doha today for Abu Dhabi at the end of a 3-day visit to Qatar during which he conveyed a verbal message to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

UAE

Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi

GF270859 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0825 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Feb (WAKH) — Algerian Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Abu Dhabi today on an official 3-day visit to the UAE as part of his current tour of the region.

He was received by Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, and Al-Hashimi al-Qadduri, the Algerian ambassador to the UAE.

Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi told WAM that he carries a message to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, from his brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The message concerns current Arab issues and the situation in the region, in addition to relations between the two countries.

He stated that his visit to the UAE "is within the continuous consultations and dialogue between Algeria and the fraternal countries in the Gulf region on the fateful issues of the Arab East and the Arab Maghreb".

The Algerian minister stated that he will not visit Tehran or Baghdad during his current tour. He pointed out that Algerian efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war will continue.

Departs for YAR

GF010746 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 1 Mar (WAKH) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi left Abu Dhabi for Sanaa this morning after an official 3-day visit to the UAE in the framework of his current tour of a number of countries in the region.

YAR

Algerian Foreign Minister Arrives, Begins Talks

GF011828 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The first session of official Yemeni-Algerian talks began at the Council of Ministers headquarters this afternoon. The Yemeni side was led by Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee. The Algerian side was led by Brother Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

During this session bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to develop them were reviewed. Discussion was also held on Arab, Islamic, and international causes of mutual concern. The two sides held similar views on all issues.

Brother Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi arrived in Sanaa this afternoon on a 3-day visit to our country, during which he will convey a written message to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from his Brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Dr Ibrahimi expressed his pleasure at visiting our country, the cradle of civilization and Arab nationalism, and for the opportunity to closely acquaint himself with its successes and achievements in all fields. Dr Ibrahimi said that his visit and the talks that he will hold are within the framework of consultations and negotiations between the two countries on the joint fateful causes of our nation.

He was received by Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; Muhammad Sabagh, Algerian ambassador in Sanaa; members of the Algerian Embassy; and deputy director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

Conveys Message to President

GF021311 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received at the Prime Ministry at noon today Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. The Algerian foreign minister conveyed to the president a message from his brother Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with current events in the Arab and international arenas, bilateral relations, and the means to strengthen them.

SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the president has given a reply message for his brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; 'Ali Muhammad al-Anisi, director of the president's office; the delegation accompanying the Algerian foreign minister; and Mohamed Sabbagh, Algerian ambassador to Sanaa.

Reportage on Mubarak Activities in Wake of Riots

'Surprise' Tour of Area

NC281547 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1502 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] President Husni Mubarak paid a surprise visit to the Al-Ahram vicinity of Al-Jizah Governorate at 1430 today to inspect the area where riots have taken place during the past 2 days. He also inspected the tourist sites and hotels that the deviationist faction had ruined, looted, and burned.

Mubarak has instructed the military prosecution to begin interrogation of the deviationist minority that has broken the law and used their arms to resist authority. He also issued orders for the prime minister and the ministers of construction, housing, and tourism to formulate on emergency plan to ensure that all available resources are used to restore the tourist sites and hotels ruined by the deviationist minority. In this way it is hoped that such facilities will be made ready for tourists and residents as soon as possible.

Mubarak's visit to this are lasted for approximately 2 hours. He was accompanied by Dr 'Ali Lutfi, the prime minister; the ministers of construction, information, local government, housing, and tourism; Major General Zaki Badr, the interior minister; and the Al-Jizah governor.

To Speak on Events 9 Mar

NC282054 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 28 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has announced that he will deliver a speech on 9 March in which he will reveal to the people all the political dimensions and circumstances responsible for generating the acts of rioting and sabotage that have taken place in certain governorates over the past few days. His speech will be made in light of the ongoing investigation of the people who have been arrested without compromising the confidentiality of the investigation itself.

In a statement to be published in the 1 March edition of *AL-AHRAM*, President Mubarak said that he is keeping abreast of the results of the investigations of the arrested Central Security personnel being conducted by the Public Prosecution and the State Security Prosecution. The president stated that he does not now wish to reveal the other elements that might have participated in or contributed to the recent acts of sabotage and destruction.

In his statement to *AL-AHRAM*, President Mubarak indicated that the public prosecutor and the state security prosecutor will be responsible for investigating all crimes that occurred outside the camps of the Central Security Forces. The military prosecution will take charge of the inquiry into yesterday's incidents in the Pyramids area, where it has been proven that arms remain in the encampments, in violation of orders.

President Mubarak said that the investigations aim to pinpoint those responsible for the presence of these arms and pinpoint the perpetrators of the incidents, in accordance with military law. Under this law, these incidents were carried out by the Armed Forces while they should have been doing their duty.

President Mubarak indicated that the real heroes in the events of the last few days are the people and the Armed Forces. This does not in any way suggest that the people should forget the noble role of the police throughout history in protecting internal security and in working night and day to protect the citizens and preserve their hopes.

President Mubarak said that the acts by a deviant and suspect group should not lead to the belittlement of the police. They remain a national apparatus that lies in wait for any deviation or operation against the defense of the community, homeland, and citizens.

President Mubarak added that a re-evaluation of the entire situation will be made calmly to restore complete security and stability to Egypt. These are assets that are unique to Egypt in this region of stormy events and vicissitudes.

President Mubarak announced that any official who is lax in confronting a deviation or any negative incident that is detrimental to the interests of the citizens will immediately replaced or dismissed. The interests of the people come first. The fundamental duty of all state institutions is to serve the citizens.

Meeting With Minister, Police Commanders

NC011026 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a meeting this morning with police commanders in Al-'Uruba Palace. Attending were Interior Minister Zaki Badr, as well as Dr Usamah Al-Baz, the Foreign Ministry first undersecretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

Mitterrand, Saudi Prince 'Abdallah Call Mubarak

NC281847 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand telephoned President Muhammad Husni Mubarak a short while ago. During the coversation, the French president conveyed his greetings, appreciation, and love to Egypt and its people. The French leader also affirmed that he has placed himself at Egypt's disposal.

Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah also contacted President Mubarak and conveyed his appreciation for Egypt and its leadership. President Mubarak thanked him and assured him about the current security situation in Egypt.

Bahraini, Qatari Amirs Telephone Mubarak

NC011052 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah, phoned President Muhammad Husni

Mubarak this morning, and offered the Bahraini people's best wishes to Egypt's leaders and people. In his call, the Bahraini amir indicated that dissension within any Arab state is directed against the Arab motherland as a whole. He expressed his esteem for Egypt and its leading role, and voiced Bahrain's readiness to support Egypt in every way possible.

The amir of Qatar, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al-Thani, called President Mubarak at noon today. He too, expressed his high regard for Egypt's leaders and people, and offered them best wishes for success and stability.

Mubarak Appoints Deputies to Interior Minister

NC012012 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Persident Husni Mubarak has issued a national decree appointing Dr 'Abd al-Karim Ibrahim Darwish and Faruq Hasan al-Hini as deputies to the interior minister.

Mubarak Receives Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah

NC030812 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

Continuing Reportage on Aftermath of Police Riots

People's Assembly, NDP Statements

NC011603 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The Presidential Office continues to receive cables supporting the wise and critical decisions made by the political leadership to deal with the recent incidents. Cables condemning these incidents have been received from political parties, ministries, organizations, and various establishments, and from Egyptian leagues and organizations abroad.

The People's Assembly General Secretariat issued a statement today on these incidents. It censured a misguided minority who acted against the homeland. It declared that these acts will not halt the march of democracy and freedom, and lauded the noble Egyptian people's reaction. The secretariat expressed appreciation to the Armed Forces for doing their sacred duty to defend the security of the homeland and citizenry. It praised the security men who opposed the deluded faction.

During its meeting today, the NDP General Secretariat also issued a statement on the incidents. The statement scored the attempts at sabotage and destruction committed by a deviationist minority. It hailed the Egyptian people for their splendid stand and the Armed Forces for their work in safeguarding the people and the homeland. It also praised the policemen who stood by the people against the deviationist minority.

MENA Updates Investigation

NC281720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 28 Feb (MENA) — The Public Prosecution Office has been conducting interrogations of the rioters from certain Central Security units in Greater Cairo for the past 2 days. These interrogations have confirmed that the main reason for the eruption of recent incidents was a rumor circulating in certain Central Security camps to the effect that a decision had been made to extend the period of service by 1 year. This was reported by an official source in the Public Prosecution Office in a statement to MENA. The source noted that the ongoing interrogations had not yet revealed whether any radical organizations or foreign elements were behind these incidents.

According to this same source, information gained from the interrogations indicates that when conscripts in certain Central Security camps learned about the protests taking place in some of their units over this rumored decision, they took to the streets with their arms and ammunition without permission from their command. The source also pointed out that a few civilian rioters joined these conscripts in carrying out the acts of sabotage, arson, killing, and looting that took place during these incidents.

The official source in the Public Prosecution Office added that several Central Security officers are due to present their testimony about the circumstances that led to the rioting and about the identity of those involved within the next few days.

The Prosecution Office has already interrogated the people who have been hospitalized with injuries connected to the riots, the source said. They were questioned about the causes for their injuries, the circumstances under which they received them, and the reasons for their presence in the areas where distrubances took place. He also stated that preliminary investigations had indicated that only some of the wounded actually took part in the riots; others were merely innocent victims.

According to this same source, the Public Prosecution Office began hearing testimony today from people whose property had been damaged. The owners provided details about the sabotage done to their property and about the circumstances of the rioting itself. The source said that the Public Prosecution Office has conducted on-site inspections of the damaged facilities and made its own assessment of the losses incurred by each. Ad hoc committees will be formed to estimate the financial damage done to the larger installations, something that is difficult for the prosecution to assess on its own, he added.

The source also stated that the Prosecution Office had ordered autopsies of the bodies of those who had died in the incidents prior to releasing them for immediate burial.

The Public Prosecution Office has received reports from the security departments in a number of governorates on the surrender of members of the Central Security Forces to the departments' police stations.

Public Prosecutor Counselor Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jundi has followed up the investigations being made by the Public Prosecution Office. He ordered these investigations to be completed quickly so that the truth about these events, as well as those who had planned them, would be revealed.

15 Accused in Prosecutor's Probe

NC011719 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — The Military Prosecutor's Office today continued its investigations of Central Security soldiers. President Husni Mubarak had issued a decree earlier ordering the military prosecutor to handle the investigations on the incident that took place yesterday, Friday, since it had occured at one of the camps belonging to the regular forces.

The Military Prosecutor's office started the investigations yesterday evening, under the chairmanship of Major General Samir Muhammadi deputy military prosecutor general. The investigations involve around 15 accused.

Rumors of Extended Service Possibly True

NC021126 Paris AFP in English 1122 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, March 2 (AFP) — An Egyptian official acknowledged Sunday that rumours that police conscripts would serve four years instead of three, which may have sparked last week's riots, were based on a planned decree to this effect.

Authorities had at first denied the rumours. The planned decree, according to an informed source Sunday, had been aimed at prolonging the compulsory service of recruits who had shown indiscripline during three years.

The riots last Tuesday and Wednesday left 36 dead and 235 wounded. President Husni Mubarak later named Police General Zaki Badr to replace General Ahmad Rushdi as interior minister, and created two new ministry posts.

Minister Cites Mubarak on Police Welfare

NC011658 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr has stated that President Mubarak told him during a meeting today that life must return to normal as soon as possible.

The interior minister added that the president had described the Egyptian police as a national organ capable of shouldering its responsibilities. He said that recent events were transitory and did not reflect the nature of the police or affect the masses' trust in them.

The president asked police commanders to devote attention to promoting vocational, social, and health facilities for members of the police force, and to improve their standard of living. The president also stressed the importance of raising the level of training and to make individuals more culturally and morally aware.

The minister said that the state's executive organs will offer all available resources to provide what the police force needs to achieve its objectives.

Interior Minister Reassigns Assistants

NC011739 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr has made the following appointments:

Major General Husayn Kamil Muhammad Zaki, up to now first assistant for the security forces, will become Badr's deputy for economic security;

Major General Mahmud Yusuf 'Id Ahmad, assistant for the Central Delta Area, will be Badr's assistant for the Western Delta Area from the date the post becomes vacant;

Major General Mamduh Salim Zaki, assistant for economic security, now becomes Badr's assistant for social security;

Major General Mukhtar Ahmad Ma'bad, assistant for the Security Forces, will become assistant for financial and administrative affairs;

Major General Muhammad Hasan 'Ali Tantawi, assistant for the State Intelligence Service will now be assistant for the Central Delta Area.

The duties of the interior minister's assistant for the Security Forces have been assigned to the first assistant for manpower.

Major General 'Abd al-Rahim Tawfiq al-Nahhas, director of the General Department of Alexandria's Central Security District, will be appointed director of the General Department of the central police directorate. He will also undertake the duties of the interior minister's assistant for the Central Security Forces.

Major General Lutfi 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, director of the General Department for the Central Security Directorate, will become director of the General Department for information and documentation;

Major General Mustafa Ahmad Kamil Ibrahim, director of Cairo security, becomes director of the General Department of the State Intelligence Service.

Major General Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Mansur, director of Al-Daqahliyah security, will becomes director of Cairo security.

These appointments are effective from today.

New Deputies Discuss Posts

NC021631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) — Major General Dr 'Abd al-Karim Darwish, the deputy interior minister, has announced that all-encompassing studies have begun to assess the entire situation following recent events.

In a statement to MENA, the deputy interior minister said that things are improving. He also said that his concern at present is to deal with the causes.

Maj Gen Darwish explained that in his post at the Interior Ministry he will be responsible for the police academy, the security forces, central security, and all the conscript forces, as well as the sector of training, development, financial and administrative affairs, and institutions.

Major General Faruq al-Hini, the deputy interior minister, also said in a statement to MENA that he currently is studying security conditions and that his primary concern is how to restore security, calm, and stability to Greater Cairo.

He said that following coordination with Dr Darwish, he will assume responsibility for economic security, social security, criminal security, the specialized police, and the security directorates.

Maj Gen Dr 'Abd al-Karim Ibrahim Darwish was born on 7 April 1926, in Al-Daqahliyah Governorate. He is married and has two children. He graduated from the police academy in 1946, received his B.A. degree in public relations in 1959 and his Ph.D. in public administration from New York University in 1962.

Maj Gen Faruq Hasan al-Hini was born on 9 December 1926, in Cairo. He is married and has three daughters. He graduated from the police academy in 1946.

Interior Minister Badr Interviewed on Riots

NC012052 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Interview with Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr by unidentified Cairo radio correspondent; place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] What would you like to say to the police force as a whole now that the deviationist minority has caused a small rift in the body and heart of the police force?

[Badr] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As a matter of fact, and as is well known, the police force in Egypt is ages old and has a splendid and historical record. The role of the police in maintaining security and fulfilling its duty in Egypt throughout history cannot be denied. The recent incidents could have occurred at any time and in any police force in the world. These are passing incidents that will absolutely not affect the reputation of the Egyptian security organ. The noble Egyptian people realize this and sympathize and fully cooperate with the Egyptian police, particularly under these circumstances. These simple incidents will soon be forgotten once and for all.

The Egyptians are a noble people; so, where do the Egyptian police come from? Aren't policemen part of these people? Their sons, fathers, brothers? The mettle of these people? The police are from and for these people. What has taken place will not shake confidence in the least. The situation of the police is now normal; policemen are reassuming their duties. On this occasion, I would like to note President Husni Mubarak's patronage and his full appreciation of the role of the police. As police commanders, we were honored to meet with his excellency this morning. I would also like to salute the other side of the coin, the beloved sons of Egypt, the sons of the Armed Forces under the leadership of Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah. They are the mainstay of the people, the police, the homeland and Egypt at this important stage.

[Question] Mr Minister, the curfew is being lifted from 0600 until 1800 — we are meeting with your excellency after 1800. A whole day is a long period for the citizens to be free to go to work, to market, and everywhere else. How do you view the situation in the streets today and how will it be tomorrow? We will move on to another topic after hearing your answer.

[Badr] I roamed the streets of Cairo for about 3 hours today. Everything is proceeding normally. Workers and others are walking around and the markets are open. The curfew will be lifted gradually. We hope that the curfew will be lifted once and for all in the next few days. The prime minister is to make a decision on this and we will all give our views. We hope that life will return to normal as quickly as possible.

[Question] Mr minister, Egypt was to host the African soccer cup tournament. The whole world had its eyes on Cairo and Alexandria for the result of the match. Can we say that the soccer match will be held on schedule or will events change the date?

[Badr] God willing, the tournament will be held and, God willing, Egypt will be safe and secure. We will take measures, protected by God Almighty. We hope things will pass in peace and security since we are used to Egypt being an oasis of safety and security.

Badr: Libya, Syria Not Implicated

NC021924 Paris AFP in English 1920 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 2 (AFP) — Libya and Syria were not implicated in recent riots by police conscripts, new Egyptian Interior Minister General Muhammad Zaki Badr said Sunday, adding that the curfew imposed on Cairo since Wednesday could be lifted "in the very near future."

The weekly newspaper *MAYO* of the ruling National Democratic Party Sunday quoted Gen Badr as saying that "although statements coming from (Libya and Syria) contained provocations and incitations to rebellion," there was no evidence linking them to the rioting.

The riots, termed by Gen Badr as "the strangest incident in the history of Egyptian police," broke out Tuesday amidst rumors that the period of conscription was to be extended from three years to four.

The riots left 36 people dead, mostly conscripts, and 235 wounded.

An official acknowledged Sunday that the rumors stemmed from a draft decree aimed at extending the compulsory service of ill-disciplined conscripts.

Gen Badr said that only two percent of the 380,000 policemen had joined in the riots and that the central police corps at the center of the riot would not be dissolved.

Comments on Central Security Service

NC022239 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) — Major General Zaki Badr, the new Egyptian interior minister, has said in an interview with the weekly newspaper *MAYU* to be published Monday, that despite recent events, the Central Security Service will remain and will be maintained, since there is no substitute for it. It will not be abolished, liquidated, or dissolved, and its soldiers will not be demobilized. This service will be constantly developed within the limits of existing security requirements and developing conditions.

The interior minister said that the establishment of a rapid deployment force to deal with any emergency or crisis is being considered.

He asserted that the close and strong relationship between the police and the Army has not changed. On the contrary, this relationship has become stronger. There is no contradiction between the roles of the two services; rather, there is constant cooperation, coordination, and integration between them.

He reaffirmed that there is no truth to rumors that the length of service of Central Security conscripts will be extended by 1 year, because there is a law for conscripts that governs these things. We abide by this law. This law is valid and has not been amended in any way.

He said that although Syrian, Libyan, and Iranian statements contained provocation and agitation, it could not be confirmed that the three states had been involved in the revolt of a deviating minority. The investigations will uncover the facts. He declared that the emergency law is still valid. Its continued validity or its abolishment will be decided by the People's Assembly.

Information Minister Interviewed on Recent Violence

NC281214 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0907 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Telephone interview with Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif by Cairo radio Director Fahmi 'Umar on 28 February — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Fahmi 'Umar] Good Morning, Mr Minister. You have been daily providing us with news. We believe that the situation is calmer and more stable today and that life in various parts of Greater Cairo is returning to normal. We can tell that this is the case by the behavior in the streets since 0900 today. What do you have to say about this?

[Safwat al-Sharif] That is right, Mr Fahmi. It is evident from the statements made yesterday that security prevails in all parts of the Republic. The situation last night and yesterday afternoon was also calm and stable. The curfew hours today are from 0900 to 1500. This means that the curfew will be lifted for 6 hours. It is clear that security prevails in all parts of the Republic and that no incident of any kind has taken place in Greater Cairo or the governorates. The security forces are in full control of the situation. There is complete coordination and cooperation between the Armed Forces units and all the police departments, which are carrying out their task very competently.

Brother citizens might have heard some bursts of gunfire in areas, such as Al-Haram. The situation there is completely calm. However, owners of some private gardens and private residences and villas in Al-Mansuriyah have civilian wardens. It appears that these wardens are anxious or nervous. They fire a few shots in the air every now and then to feel secure. The police patrols have cautioned them that there is no cause for such behavior because security prevails and that they should quietly guard the fruit groves and houses. When one is nervous, one imagines that the slightest incident could be a riotous act. The small fire that broke out in a garbage heap near a movie theater on Al-Haram Street was extinguished immediately. It was unrelated to any riotous act. These are normal incidents.

['Umar] Mr Minister, we still say that the reports broadcast by the Egyptian media are correct. In fact, all the reports carried by the Cairo radio and MENA are being picked up by most of the radios in the area, except, of course, for some well known radios that have said that embassies in Egypt have asked their nationals to leave the country, that there are riots, and so on. These reports are repeated, despite the fact that official spokesmen in many countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, and Austria, have issued statements denying them. We wish to have your comments on this.

[Al-Sharif] These radios have completely lost their credibility. Some of these sick radios are imagining things. Inform them that the imposition of a curfew is a precautionary measure in the capital of the Arab Republic of Egypt, which is the largest Arab state. We say that the security situation is stable and that life is normal. We shall not heed these radios. No one is leaving Egypt; the ambassadors and foreign nationals are still here. They, too, listen to these lying radios.

['Umar] These radios also say that a large number of men from the Central Security Forces were involved in the incidents and that the police force no longer should be considered the well known Egyptian force that is the bastion and guard of the homeland and the citizens.

[Al-Sharif] These are sick radios. Security prevails. From the beginning it must have been clear that the great majority of all the Central Security camps were and still are adhering to discipline. Those who violated the law were a deviationist minority. It has been announced that 2,000 Central Security men were involved. The police are carrying out their task very respectfully. We should not heed these venomous radios. An announcement will be made tomorrow on the curfew. It will be lifted for additional hours to enable the citizens to carry out their work and to help the situation return to normal.

['Umar] God willing. Thank you, Mr Minister.

Second Interview

NC011503 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1110 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Telephone interview with Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif by Cairo radio director Fahmi 'Umar — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Fahmi 'Umar] Your Excellency the Minister?

[Safwat al-Sharif] Yes. Good morning.

['Umar] For the past 3 days, your excellency has given listeners the latest news and your comments on the recent events. What is the situation today, your excellency?

[Al-Sharif] The situation today is perfectly calm. No incidents have occured since yesterday at 1330. We immediately announced this incident — the rebellion in the Al-Haram camp. Since then, nothing out of the ordinary has occurred. The situation is completely stable in all governorates of Egypt and especially in Greater Cairo.

Today I heard the BBC — I do not know where it gets these reports — say that shots were heard in Heliopolis. In reality, the Heliopolis inhabitants are still there. No shots have been heard; no shots have been fired. The BBC has also stated that there were shots in a camp in Nasr City, near the airport. These reports are totally groundless.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS also says that incidents are still occurring, and so forth. To any agency that says such things, I reply that absolutely nothing out of the ordinary has happened since yesterday, as of this minute.

All the Arab radios are positive. A large number of kings, princes, and presidents have called the Egyptian leadership. We are following up on these calls and announcing them. Their highnesses the amirs of Bahrain and of Qatar phoned today. Phone calls have also been made by their excellencies the ministers of information. There is absolute openess with and support for Egypt and the Egyptian people. This is natural; we have been accustomed to it.

['Umar] Radio Damascus says that the intensive shooting that broke out in the Pyramids area has prevented President Husni Mubarak from carrying out a scheduled tour of the area. The radio says that he was to view the damage caused by the uprising, but did not risk entering the area due to the lack of stability and security.

[Al-Sharif] That is really wonderful because the whole world with all its correspondents, television stations, and radio stations has noted that Mubarak's 2-hour visit was not postponed for one minute. Radio Damascus always broadcasts lies, imagining that the people are deceived. Radio Libya also cooperates in this. It seems that the two radios are competing. Leave them to their fantasies; leave them to their lies. We also hear strange things from Iran. All these countries should turn to their peoples, ending the poisonous lies, which the world recognizes as such.

['Umar] Very good, your excellency. Thus, at the conclusion of this interview, your excellency would like to emphasize that there are no incidents in any part of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

[Al-Sharif] Absolutely. The people should know all these things for they hold the reigns of security and stability.

['Umar] When the incident occurred in the camp, we immediately announced it, your excellency.

[Al-Sharif] Immediately. It appears that Damascus does not know, but it should discover that Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Israel, the West Bank, and Libya — Damascus can ask in Banghazi — watch Egyptian television. Damascus will find that we accompany every report with films, which clearly show all the facts. There is complete stability; the situation is perfectly normal; traffic is normal; the government is going about its regular activities; and matters are stable. There is nothing at all abnormal happening.

Stresses Cairo, Other Areas 'Calm'

NC021556 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 2 Mar (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has emphasized that the situation is normal and completely calm in Greater Cairo and the other governorates in the Republic. He also stressed that security and stability prevail in the country and that the security and police forces continue to maintain order in Greater Cairo and all the governorates.

In statements today, the information minister denied that any incidents had occurred yesterday in north and south Cairo. He described what some foreign news agencies and radio stations had reported to this effect as completely untrue.

Al-Sharif criticized some of these radio stations that depend on rumors to get what they think are scoops without referring to the right sources and without verifying what they put on the air. He urged correspondents to verify their reports, pointing out that the Egyptian media do not conceal the facts.

Al-Sharif said that following orders from President Husni Mubarak, the Armed Forces are assembling in certain areas such as Nasr City and near the airport in a process that will gradually thin out their presence.

BBC Reports 'Groundless'

NC021621 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of information has denied REUTER reports cited by the BBC in its morning newscast that rebels are taking refuge in camps in north Cairo and that there has been shooting in the southern part of the city. His excellency mentioned Voice of America reports that its correspondent had verified for himself that there was complete calm and order. The VOA correspondent had also said that he had spoken with some officers and soldiers in the area. Thus, the reports broadcast by the BBC are groundless.

In his interview with radio director Fahmi 'Umar, the minister said that the tanks that have been seen are simply part of a round-up of tanks that have been withdrawn from their positions in the streets of Cairo, in compliance with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's instructions to reduce the number of Armed Forces units in the streets of the capital. Security has been established in all parts of the Republic, no incidents have occurred, and the security and police forces are carrying out their responsibilities in full.

$105 Million Damage to Tourist Installations

NC010823 Cairo MENA in English 0809 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 1 (MENA) — Egypt will launch shortly a large tourist marketing campaign on world markets, Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs said. The Egyptian Federation of Tourist and Hotel Chambers will take part in the campaign together with Egyptair, the tourist activating authority, the private tourist and hotels sector, besides international hotels with an activity in Egypt, he said.

Dr 'Ubayd said that preliminary estimates show that the recent disturbances have caused a damage of about 105 million dollars to tourist installations, 47 million dollars of which would have come to the country in foreign currency, Dr 'Ubayd added.

Tourism Minister Assesses Damage

NC011141 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpts] In a statement to MENA, Dr Fu'ad 'Abd al-Latif Sultan, the minister of tourism and civil aviation, said that the recent riots aimed to destroy Egyptian tourism, which is one of the major sources of national revenue. He indicated that the incidents, in fact, did affect tourism in Egypt since travel companies canceled their reservations.

The minister said that the hotel and tourist establishments' direct losses resulting from the riots are estimated at approximately 100 million Egyptian pounds. The damage and destruction to the hotels affected approximately 4000 rooms. Indirect losses are much higher. The income of these establishments is between $250,000 and $500,000 daily, not including the wages of the 9,000-person staff.

NPUG General Secretariat Discusses Recent Events

NC031038 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — In a statement issued at the conclusion of its meetings today, the NPUG General Secretariat condemned the recent acts of violence, mutiny, and sabotage against facilities.

During its sessions, the General Secretariat reviewed the recent riots in greater Cairo, as well as subsequent developments and the statement issued by President Husni Mubarak on these incidents. The General Secretariat also listened to a presentation by Khalid Muhyi al-Din, the party's secretary general, on the discussions and views presented during the president's meeting with the leaders of various political parties.

The NPUG General Secretariat has decided to postpone its meeting, originally scheduled for Saturday, until Wednesday, 12 March.

NDP Youth Says 'Sedition' Masterminds Must Be Found

NC011921 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The Secretariat General of the NDP Youth has stressed that the current stage requires that all the worthy sons of Egypt display an unbending firmness and an unconquerable will in order to surmount the recent painful events in the country. The secretariat general warned in a statement issued following a meeting today chaired by NDP Youth Secretary Dr Mahmud Sharif that these events do not benefit anyone and on the contrary, their evil will touch everyone indiscriminately.

The statement said: It is not reasonable to accept that what happened was merely the blind rage of a minority deceived by appeals against their own self-interest. The statement added that it is necessary to review the Central Security Forces' situation and conditions, but this must not, however, divert our attention from pursuing the people who masterminded the sedition and those who put these plans into action.

The NDP Youth declared its support for President Husni Mubarak and expressed confidence in his wosdom and his ability to confront sedition and destruction. They pledged to be a strong hand in reconstruction and development.

President Receives Chadian Envoy, Message

JN011344 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1254 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila, personal envoy to his excellency from Chadian President Hissein Habre. He conveyed to President Saddam Husayn a written message on relations between the two friendly countries and their joint desire to promote relations in all fields in a way that serves the two peoples' interests and the issues of security and stability in the region and in Africa. Attending the meeting were Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the president's secretary.

Talks With Delegations Begin

JN021432 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1337 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) — Party talks between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Chadian National Union for Independence and Revolution [NUIR] began here today. The Ba'th Party delegation was led by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, director of the Foreign Relations Office at the National Command, while the Chadian delegation was led by Mahamat Soumaila, member of the NUIR Political Bureau.

Mahamat Soumaila expressed the solidarity of the Chadian people and Government with Iraq in its defensive war against the expansionist Iranian aggression. During the meeting, they also discussed ways to promote relations between the two parties as well as ways to exchange visits and expertise.

Lebanese Resistance Cables Saddam Husayn

JN021657 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Liberation Forces [quwwat al-tahrir] have asserted that the heroism and victories of Iraq's soldiers, who are shaping the Arabs' new epic in their second Al-Qadisiyah, have carried good news to the sons of Arabism in Lebanon that a new Arab dawn is appearing. In a cable to President leader Saddam Husayn, the Lebanese resistance added that what is being achieved by the sons of Iraq is considered a big nail in the coffin of the Arab nation's enemies, particularly in the coffin of the rulers of Syria and Libya, who are trying to distort our aims and history and who are supporting Iraq's enemies, the Arab nation's enemies. The Lebanese National Resistance Liberation Forces have stressed their support for Iraq and its readiness to fight honorably side by side with Iraq's soldiers in confronting the Iranian aggression.

Trade Minister Confers With SFRY Official

JN021527 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1445 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met here today with Jon Srbovan, SFRY minister of state [as received], Federal Executive Council member, and deputy head of the SFRY side on the Iraqi-SFRY committee for cooperation in the economic, scientific, and technical fields. They reviewed preparations for convening the 11th session of the committee in Baghdad on 4 March.

The meeting was attended by 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim, Oil Ministry under secretary and deputy head of the Iraqi side on the joint committee, and the Yugoslav ambassador in Baghdad.

President Cables Swedish King on Palme Death

JN011939 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1905 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable of condolence to Swedish King Carl XVI Gustav on the assassination of Prime Minister Olof Palme. The cable reads:

We received with deep sorrow the news of the assassination of Prime Minister Olof Palme. While expressing on this sad occasion our deep sorrow on the loss of a man of peace who has worked to attain world peace and exerted noticeable efforts for ending the Iraqi-Iranian war as a representative of the UN secretary general, we offer our sincere condolences to your majesty and to the friendly Swedish people.

Ramadan Addresses Popular Army Fighters

JN021323 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and commander in chief of the Popular Army, has said that our proud people are now living immortal and great days and are marching along the path of glory in bravely confronting the Iranian aggression on militant Iraq.

In a speech greeting the Popular Army fighters in the Al-Muthanna area who seek the honor of joining the glorious battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, Ramadan added that our Armed Forces and its honest supporter, the Popular Army, are now writing the most marvelous epics in Arab history and are strongly expressing the deep-rootedness of our proud people and their distinguished position in the Arab nation's militant history.

He said that the support by the agent regimes of Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi for the regime of charlatanism and jugglery will not weaken lofty Iraq and its firm determination. Our dear homeland will continue to be a minaret for the Arab nation and will resurrect the glories of our great ancestors.

The comrade commander in chief of the Popular Army held a meeting at the camp's headquarters during which he discussed the training curricula and the preparations to secure the accomodation of new volunteers and the requirements for training them.

Iraqi Air Force Chief Interviewed on 'New Weapons'

LD281424 Kuwait KUNA in English 1306 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] London, Feb 28 (KUNA) — Iraq's Air Force chief said Friday that his country possessed "modern weapons" which it has not yet used against invading Iranian forces.

In an interview with the London-based Arabic-language weekly *AL-DUSTUR*, Air Force commander Hamid Shaban said these new weapons, were being "prepared for the next phase" in the current fighting and would be used "especially against the Iranian interior". He did not elaborate further on the nature of the weapons.

Shaban expressed his belief that the current fighting between the Iraqi and Iranian forces "will be final and decisive as far as the enemy is concerned".

He pledged that the Iraqi Air Force would go on "to destroy completely and comprehensively the economic and energy facilities of the enemy."

Regarding the progress of fighting in the air during the current Iranian offensive, the Iraqi officer revealed the loss of eight of his country's warplanes "despite thousands of sorties".

He described Iranian Air Force losses as "a well known reality", and affirmed that "no aeroplane entering Iraqi airspace escapes". Iraqi air defences have so far shot down 20 Iranian planes during the recent battles, he added.

Shaban, quoting what he called "accurate figures," estimated total Iranian losses as a result of the latest offensive at over 50,000, and predicted that "within the next few days" the number of Iranian war dead will rise to between 70 and 80,000 men.

Iranian Northern Offensive Termed 'Insignificant

JN010742 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — 'Abd al-Jabbar Muhsin, director of political guidance in the Iraqi Defense Ministry, has said that the attack on the I Army Corps northern sector was carried out by two Iranian brigades.

In a statement published in the newspaper *AL-QADISIYAH* today, Muhsin asserted that the Iranian offensive is insignificant militarily because it is being carried out against an area that has no vital or strategic targets.

Muhsin explained that Iran's objective is to divert attention from its huge losses in the Al-Faw region. It is a desperate attempt to draw the Iraqi leadership's attention to other operational sectors, he said. He asserted that the Iraqi leadership is aware of Iran's intentions and has taken all precuations to deal with any attack on any sector.

Regarding the Iranian threats against Kuwait, Muhsin said: We will chop off the hands of the aggressors if they try to attack Kuwait and its people or tamper with its territorial integrity.

He explained that the Iraqi forces has capabilities that it has not yet used and that it will use them at the appropriate time.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Commander on Al-Faw Progress

JN021651 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Southern sector, 2 Mar (INA) — Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid, commander of the Al-Rashid column, the central column, in the VII Army Corps sector, has said that his forces are ruthlessly proceeding to liberate the land from the Iranian invaders and destroy them on the eastern bank of the Shatt al-'Arab in order to liberate Al-Faw City and every inch of Iraqi territory from their filth. At a news conference he held at an advanced position in the VII Army Corps sector today, which was attended by a number of Arab reporters, the commander noted that the central column rarely relaxes the momentum of its attacks day and night in order to wrest one position after another from the aggressors. He said that the Iraqis' only option is to liberate their land and to destroy the invading forces so that they never think of attacking Iraq again.

The commander said: The Al-Faw battle gives us an invaluable opportunity to destroy the combat resources of the Iranian Army, which sent its best formations to this battle. He said that the Iraqi fighters, who vie with each other in storming enemy positions, are now confronting the invaders with ingenious methods of combat to wipe out the Iranian forces. The commander pointed out that the survival of the invading forces, which are desperately trying to cling to their positions on Iraqi territory, is impossible and that their fate will be total defeat and destruction.

Third Phase Begun in Al-Faw

JN281734 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Southern sector, 28 Feb (INA) — The INA team in the southern sector has said that the Iraqi Armed Forces have started to implement the third phase of the battle on the VII Army Corps front. It is the phase of purging the land after completing the two phases of freezing the invading forces' positions and destroying them on the ground.

A high-ranking Army officer told the team that Iraqi units at the VII Army Corps front efficiently attained all the set targets for their operations during this week's battles and that the Iraqi fighters are now controlling most of Al-Mamlahah after purging it of the filth of the aggressors.

The team stressed that the three columns have accomplished with great ability the combat plan drawn up for this week by the Armed Forces General Command. It added that the southern column has reached the targets set for its activities within the plan and that the Al-Rashid column has reached new targets in accordance with the tasks entrusted to it. Meanwhile the northern column managed very efficiently to wipe out a large part of the enemy forces within the range of its firepower.

The high-ranking officer asserted to the INA team the superiority of Iraqi units on the ground, on the sea, and in the air. He said that these forces have taken the initiative through deadly blows dealt to the enemy. He estimated the losses of the invaders, since the night of 10 February and up to now, at more than 60,000 killed and wounded.

The high-ranking officer said that the Iraqi Armed Forces possess military superiority and strength enabling them to wipe out any attempt by the enemy in any sector on the confrontation lines and to inflict on the enemy more losses in personnel, arms, and equipment.

The INA team noted that the southern, central, and northern columns continued last night and today their capable activities in wiping out the enemy using all types of weapons, supported by intensive fire from fighter planes, helicopters, artillery, and missiles, which also destroyed hostile targets inside Iran.

The INA team said that large areas, which our three columns liberated of the invaders' filth in previous activities, were covered with thousands of enemy dead and piles of damaged weapons and equipment. The team asserted that the narrow area where the enemy is now present will soon have more Iranian bodies and more damaged equipment because of the intensity of fire which the various Iraqi forces will inflict on their heads.

The INA team pointed out that the Iraqi fighter planes and helicopters have set a record for sorties. They carried out 8,545 combat missions on enemy positions in Al-Faw and inside Iran up to yesterday. In some missions they penetrated 300km inside Iran.

The team said that combat missions for fighter planes and helicopter gunships included raids on enemy bridges, supply ships, boats, military and oil maritime targets, oil-exporting ports, aircraft, military columns, and troop assembly points inside Iran. The team indicates that Iraqi air superiority is confirmed by the absence of the enemy Air Force. It carried out only 10 raids since the beginning of the battles, during which it penetrated Iraq's international borders a distance of 30-40km. During these battles Iraqi air defenses and Iraqi planes have downed 15 enemy fighter planes.

'Strategic Areas' Controlled'

JN010823 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0650 GMT 1 Mar 86

[By Usamah al-Salihi]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — Battles in the VII Army Corps sector indicate that the Iraqi forces are in control of strategic areas and that these forces are about to embark on their next task, which is to completely surround the Iranians in the Al-Faw triangle in order to prevent their withdrawal and then to kill them en masse.

Military sources in Baghdad have confirmed that the small Iraqi area under the Iranians is now being heavily bombarded by artillery, rockets, and planes. These sources explain that the continuation of the battle is not due to the Iranians' capability, but rather to the battlefield's difficult terrain, which has slowed down the Iraqi forces' advance.

These sources confirm that the battle is proceeding in accordance with the Iraqi leadership's plans to inflict the heaviest losses on the Iranian forces, as is now evident.

These sources also say that the Iranian forces are finding it difficult to replace their losses since most Iranian divisions and brigades that have been thrust into the battle have perished under heavy Irqai fire. The Iranian forces are also finding it difficult to maintain their supply lines, since Iranian concentrations and supplies are under constant attack.

These sources add that forward Iranian units have tried to attack the forward Iraqi forces. However, all attacks have been crushed, thereby increasing the number of Iranian losses. Yesterday, the Iraqi forces crushed six such attacks in 11 hours.

Important Positions 'Liberated'

JN010948 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0918 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Basra, 1 Mar (INA) — The central column completed the liberation of important positions in the VII Army Corps sector this morning. Stating this to INA, a military spokesman in the southern sector said that with such action, the column has completed its assigned tasks at this stage with absolute success and has wiped out the enemy forces. The spokesman noted that this achievement will allow the Iraqi forces to realize further victories and overcome many of the difficulties that have been besetting a speedy liquidation of the pocket to which the enemy forces are confined.

The INA team says that the units of the Al-Rashid column, which is the central column, overran enemy psoitions in the liberated areas after fierce fighting that lasted all of last night and wiped out most of the enemy forces.

Important Junctions 'Liberated'

JN030945 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Basra, southern Iraq, 3 Mar (INA) — Iraqi central column units in the VII Army Corps southern sector have launched an offensive against Iranian positions, liberating several important junctions which will facilite the Iraqi forces' advance. An Iraqi military source told INA today that the Iraqi units launched their offensive last night, took control of these junctions and settled the situation in their favor.

The military source explained that the junctions will allow the central column units to advance on a broader front and that this will speed up the liquidation of the Iranian forces which crossed Shatt al-'Arab. The source added that the central column forces crushed three Iranian attempts to regain positions they had lost, inflicting on them heavy losses in life and equipment.

Forces Prepare for New Advances

JN030656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0605 GMT 3 Mar 86

[By Usamah al-Salihi]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces are entrenching their new positions in the VII Army Corps southern sector in preparation for new counteroffensives and new advances. These forces are controlling positions vitally important to the progress of battles, positions wrested from the Iranians in fierce battles over the past 2 days. The three columns continued today to strike Iranian forces' positions and rear lines, destroying them and paving the way for new advances after destroying the Iranian defenses. Military sources say that the Iranians are carrying out offensives in a disorganized manner which are immediately crushed by the Iraqi fire power.

In the I Army Corps northern sector, the Iraqi forces have succeeded in preventing the Iranians from erecting any defense positions in the Chuwartah area. The Iraqi units in this sector are tightening their control on the situation with the participation of Iraqi helicopter gunships which pounded Iranian positions all day yesterday.

450 Iranians Killed in Purge

JN020859 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0837 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) — A field commander has said that the Iraqi forces in the Army Corps northern sector killed over 450 Iranians and wounded or captured many others while purging a vantage point in the Panjwin sector.

In a statement to *AL-QADISIYAH* newspaper, published today, he added that the Iraqi forces used artillery and tanks to purge the vantage point and destroy Iranian units. He said heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy and large quantities of weapons, hardware, and military equipment were seized. He pointed out that the Iraqi forces took advantage of the collapse and confusion which overwhelmed enemy units to pursue and destroy them. Consequently, he added, the peak and slopes of the vantage point were filled with enemy dead and wounded.

Communique No 2,131 Issued

JN281802 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,131 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces, the homeland's high fence and the people's strong shield, today are recording the greatest epics of the nation's history. They are providing through their activities cogent proof that these people shall not be vanquished and oppressed nor allow any enemy to desecrate their pure soil. The strangers and despicable hordes whom the Iranian regime sent to commit aggression on this secure country will only face definite annihilation and fire which will purge the land of their evil. Iraq will remain strong through its people, lofty through its principles, proud of its accomplishments, reassured about its present and future, and free in its will to draw up its policy and build its life. The enemies will only be a transient epidemic which shall be exterminated by the arms of men and forgotten by time.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Following the victories scored by our men in the central column at the VII Army Corps front and following their purge of vital territory, the criminal enemy attempted to launch six attacks on our positions last night. Our strong men confronted them with heavy fire and forced the enemy to retreat disgracefully after suffering heavy losses. The situation was settled in favor of our triumphant forces.

In the southern and northern columns our forces continued to pour their deadly fire on enemy units, inflicting further losses. Our forces on this front continue major preparations to advance along all axes. In the meantime, the enemy finds it hard to compensate for its massive losses, because most of the forces it sends to the battlefield are soon destroyed by the heavy fire of our valiant forces.

2. Our brave forces continued to confront enemy forces on our international border in the Chuwartah area within the I Army Corps sector. Our forces have taken the initiative and are continuing to put pressure on the enemy, inflicting massive losses in men and equipment.

3. Our Air Force took its daily share of harvesting the heads of the Khomeyniites by carrying out a series of intensive raids on the enemy at the battlefield and in its camps on vital targets, and on supply lines. Our eagles poured thousands of tons of bombs on enemy remnants, tearing them to pieces. They carried out 428 combat missions, in addition to the following:

a. At 0945 [0645 GMT] today, our planes launched a destructive raid on the Baneh camp.

b. At 1121 they launched another destructive raid on the same camp.

c. At 1132 they launched a destructive raid on the Abadan bridge.

d. At 1128 they launched a destructive raid on a bridge near Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr]. The enemy used this bridge to supply its units.

After carrying out all their missions, the eagles returned safely to base with all aircraft except one plane which fell on the battlefield. Its pilot was seen bailing out safely. We hold Iran responsible for the safety of the pilot.

4. The hero cavaliers of the helicopter gunships are playing a memorable role in this epic. They continue to pursue enemy units and destroy their positions, equipment, and weapons. They also continue to extend the best support to our ground units. The cavaliers of the helicopter gunships have an absolute superiority

in the battle skies. They carried out 347 combat missions today, after which they returned safely to base, praised be God.

5. Our brave Navy continues to impose its control over the waters of the proud Arab Gulf. While our hero Navy men were looking for enemy presence in the northern part of the Gulf, they spotted a large maritime target at 2325 yesterday. They fired their missiles at it and sank it immediately afterward.

6. Our brave units managed to inflict the following losses on the enemy: Three boats were destroyed and their occupants killed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris; three machine gun emplacements and one 106mm gun were destroyed and one enemy soldier was killed in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah Corps; and one enemy soldier was killed and two infantry positions were destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector.

May God grant you success, O men of Iraq. God bless your struggle to uphold truth and defend the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 February 1986

Communique No 2,132 Issued

JN011823 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,132 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The heroic central column at the VII Army Corps front launched a resolute offensive on enemy positions last night, dismembering the Khomeyniites's bodies and dispersing them in all directions. The central column forces advanced with strong determination, wiping out enemy forces, purging important areas, liberating several vital junctions, and opening new routes for a final victory, God willing.

At 1330 [1030 GMT] today, the frustrated enemy tried to send its forces to attack our forces within the operational area under the central column. After only 1 and 1 and half hours of fierce fighting, the attacking force was dismembered and the remainder fled from our forces. As a result of its aborted offensive and our successful counteroffensive, the enemy sustained heavy losses. The bodies of 175 Iranians still litter no-man's- land. Several enemy soldiers were also captured and the situation was settled in favor of our forces in the purged area and the areas which were the target of the enemy offensive. Glory to you, men of the central column and proceed forward.

In the operational area under the VII Army Corps northern front, our forces made a lightning offensive on enemy defense lines and in a heroic operation, they succeeded in clearing a minefield, penetrating enemy defense lines, crushing the Khomeyniites, and taking up new positions. The situation was settled in favor of our forces in their new positions after wiping out the enemy. Glory to you, men of the heroic northern column and proceed forward.

In the southern column, our forces continued to keep enemy forces in their positions by engaging them in battle and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

2. Our men in the I Army Corps sector are carrying out outstanding feats while fighting and destroying the enemy in the Chuwartah area on our lofty international borders.

A force from our heroic formations launched an offensive against one of the vantage points where enemy forces are present, crushing them and liberating the vantage point.

At 2120 [1820 GMT] yesterday, the enemy tried to attack our forward positions in the Panjwin area. Our heroes from the heroic Al-Siddiq forces confronted the enemy. After a battle lasting until 0930 [0630 GMT] today, the enemies were repulsed and were forced to leave the decaying bodies of their dead, their weapons, and military hardware in the battlefield. The situation was settled in favor of our victorious forces.

At 0140 [2240 GMT on 28 February] yesterday, the enemy tried to attack the (Katu) area which was liberated by our forces. Our men, during fierce fighting in which the courage of the Iraqi fighter was manifested, destroyed the attacking enemy force and inflicted very heavy losses on their ranks.

May God bless you, O hero men. We thank Him for His victory at all times.

3. Since dawn today, the hero eagles of the air resumed their brave combat missions pouring fire on the enemy hordes, and their artillery, weapons, and supply lines and destroying any enemy attempt to supply its forces besieged between the water and the fire.

Our brave eagles carried out 274 violent raids killing large numbers of rogues and destroying several bridges the enemy tried to repair. They also pounced on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1830 [1530 GMT] yesterday. After carrying out all these missions, the brave eagles of the air safely and triumphantly returned with their planes to the homeland, praise be to God.

4. The brave helicopter gunship knights pursued their daring feats over enemy forces in 213 combat sorties, killing the rogues, destroying their military hardware, and offering the best support for our columns which are advancing to purge our pure soil. After carrying out their duty, the helicopter gunship knights safely returned with their helicopters to the homeland, praise be to God.

5. Our brave Navy continues to heroically protect our Arab Gulf by preventing the enemy from exploiting its waters or any of its outlets. Thus, our Navy is confirming its complete control of the northern Arab Gulf region. At 0335 last night, the lions of the sea directed their destructive strikes at the newly repaired Abadan bridge, which they destroyed on the night of 21 February. The lions succeeded in completely destroying the newly repaired bridge.

6. It has been assertained that an enemy helicopter was shot down over the central column on the VII Army Corps front by our able artillery fire yesterday morning. We thank and praise you, O brave men of our artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 March 1986

Communique No 2,133 Issued

JN021736 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,133 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 2 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In these glorious days, we see Arab history being written in our positions and see the divine light returning to this nation. People are united like a wall, fighting in the path of God, and vying with each other to realize great deeds. They are defeating evil with Arab swords that are always brandished. Today, the Iraqi is reaffirming his genuine upbringing and worthiness. He is directing time toward a new Arab glory. He is opening minds and hearts to a new victory from God. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. Last night and today, our columns in the VII Army Corps front opened heavy fire from their artillery, armor, rocket launchers, mortars and other weapons at Khomeyniite positions, supported by Iraqi Air Force and Army helicopter gunships, in order to turn huge numbers of enemy troops into mutilated bodies. The criminal enemy finds it difficult to evacuate its huge losses from the land, which has turned into hell, swallowing enemy troops one wave after another. Our forces are completely dominating the situation in all axes of fighting.

2. Confirmed enemy losses in the Chuwartah battle amounted to 350 dead, and in the Panjwin battle to 450 dead, great numbers of wounded, and a number of men captured. Quantities of serviceable enemy weapons and hardware were captured after the enemy had abandoned them on the battlefield.

3. Our powerful Air Force is continuing its daily rounds over enemy positions, troop concentrations, and supply lines. Our Air Force pilots today dropped tons of bombs on the heads of the enemy troops in 191 combat missions, after which they returned safely to base, in God's care.

4. Our helicopter gunships' men are continuing to play their well-known role, destroying the enemy troops, weapons, and equipment they can see. After carrying out 176 combat missions, the helicopter gunship men returned to base, safe and triumphant, praise be to God.

[Signed] The Armed Forces, General Command, 2 March 1986

AL-SIYASAH Interviews King Husayn on Speech

GF011708 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 1 Mar 86 p 17

[Interview with Jordan's King Husayn by Ahmad al-Jarallah, chief editor of the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH*, in Amman on 25 February and published today — read by announcer]

[Text] [Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, do you not think that the timing of your speech was improper, that it came too early?

[King Husayn] As for timing, it was dictated by the reality. Issues reached a stage where we could not proceed any further. We have only to tell the truth. Our credibility was shaken in front of the world in a regrettable manner. The credibility of our utterances was shaken in the eyes of the world and of our people, both in the occupied territory and in the greater Arab homeland at large. We agreed on everything. Then they came to talk of the issue of self-determination. In our dialogue with them, we have not reached this degree of detail. After we lost our credibility, we wanted the speech to explain the issue to everyone, big and small. We believe in God. We wanted to place the facts before the people in order to let them face the challenges instead of leaving them to learn from secondary sources and to live in an inaccurate, and perhaps confusing, state of speculation.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, was there anything else you wanted to say that was not included in the speech?

[Husayn] What I did not speak about was the great suffering and strenuous efforts. Naturally our external efforts are imposed on us. We are used to them. However, our efforts with our brothers were very tiring. What I said in my speech summarizes what happened, which led to a halt in coordination between Jordan and the PLO leadership. We opened all the doors for them but they continued to move in empty circles. We succeeded in convincing the world to accept difficult concepts. The stage that we reached regarding the Palestinian problem has been unimaginable in the current world and Arab circumstances. For instance, nobody imagined the stage we reached concerning the international conference to be attended by the five big powers and the Palestinians, within a Jordanian delegation. Naturally, our concept of a solution was within the ideas of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Negotiations would be held through an international conference, beginning with a denunciation of terrorism.

Terrorism presented a bad picture at the expense of the real resistance inside the occupied territory. All of us can see this point. We accomplished many things. As I said, we opened all doors for them but their troubles were harsh on us. Then they raised the issue of self-determination, an issue which I think concerns a people with sovereignty over their soil. They presented points on which we disagreed. We wished that they had said from the beginning: What is wanted is rule [al-hukm] and not regaining territory.

Again I say that though great, the external troubles we faced were nothing compared to the troubles we faced with our brothers. Perhaps this is what the speech did not include. Regrettably, I can see the Arab territory disappearing in a fast, frightening way while we talk about impossible issues and comparisons that differ from our circumstances.

[Al-Jarallah] Is that all that you wanted to say in the speech?

[Husayn] I wanted to tell the truth to the people in order to know whether we were wrong or right. We exerted our efforts and God knows at what cost. But this was due to our sense of duty, a sense which others should feel. We wanted to get results for this problem before it was too late. We observe that every few years we regret that we have lost certain opportunities because we talk much and do little. The speech was intended to lead to the appearance of a Palestinian side which reacts to its cause in a responsible manner.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, have the Arab countries — I mean the Arab governments — given their impressions on what you presented?

[Husayn] I have not received any impression of support or opposition. I cannot say for sure if they need time to ascertain what happened. As I said, I felt that the people wanted to know the facts about the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination and the stages it covered. It took a long time and the results were not clear.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, some official regimes and people believe that Yasir 'Arafat is no longer strong. Your speech stressed something discussed by the people, particularly when you talked about the credibility of cooperation. Is this what you meant?

[Husayn] This is what we suffered from, what we faced. We overcame much in the past in the hope that his cooperation with us would be on the level of the responsibilities so that together we could do something. In our cooperation with him, our slogan was that the priority was to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict in order to liberate the territory and the people in it; but matters with the PLO did not move as they were supposed to. We reached a point where we could not continue with this Palestinian leadership. What remains is who will represent the Palestinian people. When a side that can represent the Palestinian people appears, we will be at its side. There is no room for us to cooperate with one who has no credibility.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, after you delivered your historic speech what did you feel was the response to this speech in the West Bank?

[Husayn] Yes, we felt many reactions through the delegations which arrived here in Jordan to express their feelings.

[Al-Jarallah] Some believe that there was little response to the speech in the West Bank.

[Husayn] I think the response was good unless the people are satisfied with their situation, unless they think that we can face the Zionist minds, plans, and forces with the other [PLO] method. If this is the case, well and good. The important thing is to know their opinion and stand so that we can ascertain on what ground we stand. I feel that the people are tired and want to know what will happen so as not to waste today's opportunities as the old opportunities were missed.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, the impression we have from your speech is that Jordan cannot live in a state of no war-no peace. Does this mean that you intend to hold direct negotiations with Israel?

[Husayn] Of course not. We will not be a substitute for the Palestinians. We will be their partners and comrades, if they want, and in accordance with the concept that we proposed. Even the issue of the international conference, which is practically endorsed by the Fes summit conference, is not outside the framework of previous Arab resolutions. However, as we stop at this point, we must prepare ourselves to face the danger which threatens not only us but also the entire Arab nation.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, if the objective is to liberate the land, what prevents Jordan from acting as a representative of the Jordanians and Palestinians?

[Husayn] This is their issue and the opinion is theirs. The objective of the speech is to find Palestinian forces that are concerned about liberating the land and the people on the land instead of looking forward to rule. We gave our blessing to the 1974 Arab summit resolution, which announced that the PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, do those who accept this resolution still belive that it is sound?

[Husayn] God knows. Everyone should hold discussions and dialogues. The issue before 1974 was to remove the affects of aggression. In other words, the issue was to regain the territory occupied in the 1967 aggression. Our opinion was frank. After regaining the territory, it would be for its owners and those people would determine their destiny and who they wanted after removing the affects of aggression. Our opinion was that the PLO's responsibility went beyond the borders of the territory occupied in 1967. The Arabs, however, had a different opinion. The PLO became the legitimate representative and the trustee of the Palestinian issue. We accepted this and we still adhere to it as we wait for a way out [al-faraj].

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, why doesn't the Palestinian side come from inside the occupied territory?

[Husayn] If the problem is a solution for the Paelstinian issue, of course they must have an opinion. I mean the brothers who suffer the occupation. Naturally, the others, outside the occupied territory, have an opinion. The question, however, is: Do those who do not care about their credibility have the right to represent the Palestinian people? Do they reflect these people's hopes and aspirations? I have my doubts about them because recently we suffered greatly from this Palestinian leadership. The current Palestinian leadership is very far from the conditions of the people under occupation and is not in touch with the facts. On the other hand, we appreciate the engagement of our Arab brothers in the Iraq-Iran war, the Lebanese war, and the PDRY events. We appreciate the preoccupation of our Arab brothers in these tense Arab parts. However, in our view here, this issue has priority consideration. The question I would like to ask myself is: What has the PLO done in terms of liberation so far? We carried it on our shoulders and enabled it to play its role in front of the world. However, it chose not to tread the path which we think we paved for it.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, why does 'Arafat not preserve his credibility as you think?

[Husayn] Only God knows secrets.

[Al-Jarallah] The U.S. and world press often speak of a secret Jordanian-Israeli meeting. Is this true?

[Husayn] I have answered this question many times. It is untrue. However, I would like to add that there will be no direct negotiations with Israel except through an international conference in the form which we drew up and which was crystallized before Jordan announced a halt in coordination with the current PLO leadership.

[Al-Jarallah] Some attribute the differences between Jordan and the PLO to the Syrian-Jordanian rapprochement.

[Husayn] This has nothing to do with it. Our relations with any Arab brother can be explained only by the fact that we intend to serve the entire Arab group. We are interested in bilateral relations. We and Syria face the same danger but we have divergent views on certain issues. However, if through dialogue we can bring viewpoints closer this will be to the benefit of the Arab effort. Therefore, relations with Syria are within this framework. The rapprochement with sister Damascus has no price.

[Al-Jarallah] Many in the Arab homeland say that the PLO leadership has missed many opportunities since 1974. What is your view?

[Husayn] I would like to say that missing opportunities affect all of us, particularly here in Jordan. To continue on this path, that is, missing available opportunities, is both odd and unacceptable. We live in a continuously changing world. These changes affect us. They are a looming threat to those who are still in the occupied territories as well as to our holy places.

[Al-Jarallah] There is a feeling that Egypt wants to pacify the atmosphere between you and the PLO leadership, especially since your historical speech has not closed the door.

[Husayn] In dealing with the Palestinian cause, Egypt plays an honorable, respectable role. It wants to play its honorable role in terms of the relations between Jordan and the Palestinian leadership. However, differences arose which precipitated a crisis. I do not see any possible solution except to return to the people, who will decide what they want.

[Al-Jarallah] The arms deal with the United States seems not to be forthcoming. What is the reason?

[Husayn] Apparently, the deal is off. Perhaps our deciding to not agree to proceed with the peace process without the PLO is one of the causes for the deal's cancellation or for taking more time on a decision concerning it. Perhaps the Larnaca incident in which some Israelis were killed created an anti-Arab clamor and, hence, delayed the deal. The Zionist lobby there also contributed to this delay.

[Al-Jarallah] What are these pan-Arab failures in Lebanon, Iraq, and the PDRY, failures everywhere?

[Husayn] As an Arab, I put this to my brothers in the Arab homeland. We live the pan-Arab failures every day. We feel pain because of them but do not do anything except feel more pain and anguish. We want a meeting through which we can pool our resources to defend ourselves. It is a disaster threatening the Arab character. Its continuation means that this Arab nation will disappear.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, amid these pan-Arab failures is there hope of convening an Arab summit conference, especially after your success in clearing the atmosphere with Syria?

[Husayn] I have no idea about a quick convocation of a summit, but I will make a tour to contact Arab leaders. Perhaps this will be useful.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, let us go back to the Palestinian leadership. Can Jordan create a new Palestinian leadership to cooperate with it?

[Husayn] If a new leadership emerges it will be created by the Palestinians themselves because it is their responsibility. We presented the situation to them, and they are the only party that can make a decision.

[Al-Jarallah] To what extent is it possible to create a new Palestinian leadership?

[Husayn] We have two solutions: to continue with the old course or to make a comprehensive review of the situation — the situation of the Palestinians under the occupation, who are facing terrorism and the carrot-and-stick policy. Our potential is limited. We try to mitigate the impact of occupation through our potential. The situation now is in the hands of the Palestinians in the Arab world and elsewhere. They should adopt what is suitable to choose the best solution, that is, to make a comprehensive review or to continue with the old situation with the dangers surrounding it.

[Al-Jarallah] Jordan cannot be separated from the Palestinian issue due to many factors. If the establishment of a new leadership is delayed and Jordan continues to reject cooperation with the old leadership, what will happen to the Jordan community?

[Husayn] On the political level, there will be no cooperation with the present leadership. On the level of serving the people in the occupied territory we will do our utmost within the available potential.

I wanted to speak frankly to the Jordanian community when I delivered the recent speech. I am responsible for the unity of this people and for removing the dangers threatening them.

[Al-Jarallah] A question is being asked by many people which I personally do not believe. The question states relations between Jordan and Baghdad are now going through a stage of coolness.

[Husayn] Absolutely not. We are with Iraq with all our potential and resources. Our brothers in Iraq know this full well.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, were you able to create a better atmosphere for relations between Baghdad and Damascus?

[Husayn] I have great hope that the atmosphere will improve. If I can do something in this regard, I will not spare my efforts.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, what are the dimensions of the recent [Iranian] military aggression against Iraq?

[Husayn] It is an aggression against the whole Arab nation. It is very painful not to see the Arab nation place its entire potential at the disposal of Iraq.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, some people believe that this war is between Iraq and Iran and that it is not an Arab war.

[Husayn] We never thought of this assessment. It is an Arab-Iranian war, But we did not deal with it as we should have.

[Al-Jarallah] The local Jordanian complaint is the economic situation and the economic retreat. Is there a solution to this complaint?

[Husayn] The economic situation here is part of the Arab situation as a whole. The previous situation, which was characterized by high rates of inflation, was abnormal. We, as a government, are trying to reduce the effects of this retreat, but it is linked to the tangled Arab economic situation.

[Al-Jarallah] Your majesty, a final and personal question. While you are expecting a new child, how many sons and daughters do you have?

[Husayn] Five sons and four daughters in addition to an adopted daughter.

Reaction to Assassination of Israeli Mayor Reported

Official Spokesman Comments

JN021226 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] A Jordanian official spokesman has stated the following: A suspect, rancorous, and cowardly side this morning committed a heinous crime against the life of late Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri while he was performing his duty in the service of residents of the valiant city to which he devoted his life. This heinous crime is a new link in the series of criminal terrorist acts aimed against the Palestine question that serve the Judaization designs against the Arab land and entrench Israeli occupation of this land.

The official spokesman added that Jordan condemns this criminal terrorist act which was aimed against the life of a man who devoted his life to serving the citizens of his city, Nabulus, and who worked with the city's faithful sons to rescue their city from the arrogance of the Israeli occupation officers and their control of the city and its inhabitants. The official spokesman concluded by saying that the patriotism of our kinfolk in the occupied land will always remain stronger than the criminal and terrorist hands. The treacherous criminal hands will never escape punishment.

AL-RA'Y Terms Act 'Barbaric'

JN030803 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 3 Mar 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "A New Victim of Terrorism"]

[Text] Zafir al-Masri's assassination yesterday was a new link in the long chain of terrorism acts. Such acts of terrorism have replaced words and thinking with bullets and pushed the situation in the Middle East and throughout the world to a stage of crazy and inhuman escalation of mutual killings due to differences of opinion. The fact which is acknowledged by everybody is that assassination, particularly political assassination, is a barbaric act and an expression of weakness, not strength, an expression of rancor, not thought. Thus, the assassination of Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri is a condemned act that can only be assessed and viewed on the basis that such acts are geared to the enemy's racist schemes.

Jordan, which denounces and condemned this terrorist act, is fully aware that Al-Masri's assassination, despite its motives and causes, serves the enemy. It is known that Zionist history is full of crimes against the Palestinian people and their leaders in the occupied territory. The expulsions, dismissals, assassinations, and attempts at assassination to which the West Bank and Gaza mayors were exposed had negative effects on the kinfolk in the occupied Palestinian territory. Therefore, Zafir al-Masri's assassination represents a real and direct service to the enemy's schemes and objectives. The most important of these is meant to portray the occupation authorities alone as capable of running the affairs of our kinfolk in the West Bank and Gaza. The Israeli statements made after the crime affirm this fact.

These statements are full of poison and rancor despite the attempt to make them look humanitarian. Talk about the need to impose Israeli law on the West Bank and Gaza was one prominent Israeli reaction to the assassination. This has always been a Zionist objective to be implemented at the right moment.

As we condemn Zafir al-Masri's assassination and all similar crimes, we should be true to ourselves so that we do not find out too late that we are aiming our pistols at our hopes and objectives. The world, which shared with us the sorrow and condemned the terrorist act, is called upon to adopt a similar stand and to work seriously to achieve a fair and permanent peace. Terrorism should be condemned, but we should also search for its roots before disaster hits our region, as well as other areas which are still hesitant, or even refusing, to exert real efforts to return justice, truth, and security to the people in Palestine and elsewhere.

Karami Criticizes Arabs Stand on South

NC021329 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has accused the Arab states of failing to support Lebanese attempts to expel Israel from the south. In a statement to the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, Karami said: Despite the steps taken in the south in defense of Lebanon and the entire Arab region on the premise that Israel is our common enemy, we have yet to see any Arab action or initiative backing our efforts.

In another development, the prime minister announced that he would continue to boycott Cabinet meetings until a proper solution that serves our national interests is found.

Al-Huss Against Party Security Force

NC011814 Beirut Domestic Service in English
1505 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Education and Labor Minister Dr Salim Al-Huss today rejected any new security arrangements that would conflict with the contents of the agreement reached in Damascus between Islamic leaders. Dr al-Huss insisted that peace-keeping responsibilities be confined to internal security forces and the regular security units. Security at the hands of political parties, Dr al-Huss insisted, had demonstrated its inability to cope with public needs. He called for the closue of all political party offices and removal of all armed manifestations and the confining of the duties of the strike force of political parties to the resolving of clashes between party militiamen.

Minister al-Huss said in a statement today that he had no specific information on new security arrangements for West Beirut other than reports carried in the local press. He declared that nobody had consulted him, and he added that he was against any arrangement that would conflict with the Damascus agreement.

Dr al-Huss said that special security units, working hand-in-hand with the internal security forces, should be given full support in carrying out the task of maintaining law and order. He said that this support has been withheld in an obvious effort to keep security at the mercy of political groups. He noted that security at the hands of militias had been a failure, and he questioned the approach that would seek to use party elements to impose law and order which was being violated by elements of the same parties.

The education minister pointed out that party offices were increasing rather than decreasing, and that parties were operating prisons in which they confined kidnapped persons. He declared that the inhumane practice of kidnapping could not be stopped as long as private prisons were maintained by political parties. He said that political parties that wanted peace for the public would begin by closing their own offices and disbanding their own prisons.

Minister al-Huss pointed out that a security force drawn from the ranks of armed militias was only needed to crack down on militia elements that engaged in inter-party fighting. He stressed that,had the parties complied with existing regulations set forth in the Damascus agreement, there would have been no need for another strike force.

The education minister noted that all these arrangements were temporary, awaiting the emergence of a capable legitimate force. He stressed that there was no substitute for the legitimate forces functioning within the framework of national reconciliation. He accused the central authority of opening the way for illegality on the local level in all parts of the country.

Junblatt Discusses Mideast at CPSU Congress

NC010714 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Minister Walid Junblatt has emphasized in Moscow that we must lay down our arms and start a serious dialogue in Lebanon to settle various complicated issues. He stressed that the Israelis must withdraw from southern Lebanon, and must do so unconditionally.

In a speech delivered at the Hall of Columns in the Trade Unions Palace, which is the site of the 27th CPSU Congress, Junblatt discussed the importance of finding a radical solution to the problem of the East-West arms race. He then highlighted the following points:

The Israeli forces must withdraw from south Lebanon and must do so completely and unconditionally. UN resolutions must be implemented, and the armistice agreement should be the only framework for Lebanese-Israeli relations.

A serious dialogue must be started in Lebanon to settle the complex questions we face. We must lay down our arms to prevent our poor people from suffering the bitter taste of death each day and at every moment.

Everyone must be convinced that there will be no settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict unless the Palestinian Arab people obtain their just and legitimate rights, which include an independent state on their own soil.

A peaceful settlement must be found for the dispute between Iraq and Iran in order to save lives and resources and to ward off the adverse effects this war has had on Arab and Islamic issues.

Paqraduni Reviews Developments, Ties With Syria

NC282202 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] In his monthly discussion with correspondents and citizens on the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation [television service], lawyer Karim Paqraduni, vice chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, spoke on recent developments in the Lebanese arena overall, the current situation, and his expectations for the future.

Asked about the situation in the south and whether the Lebanese crisis began there, Paqraduni said: We are not afraid of the south but we are afraid for it. The south today is a predicament for everybody, including Israel. The situation there is changing radically. If we want to end the tragedy of the south, the Lebanese Army must be redeployed there, with the support of UNIFIL. Paqraduni said that the red lines could all change as our intrinsic strength changes. He stressed that there are still red lines in the southern area that must not be crossed.

Regarding contacts between the Lebanese Forces and Damascus, Paqraduni said: There has been no communication between us so far. There could be in the future, however. Any such communications will be conducted in a comprehensive, collective manner and on a broad Christian basis.

On the campaign against the president of the Republic, Pagraduni stated: We are against the proposal to boycott the president of the Republic. This boycott means one community boycotting another one. Hence, we do not agree to the removal of the president in any nonconstitutional manner or by force. We support the president's remaining in office. There is not a single good reason to remove him.

Laywer Paqraduni spoke on the events in the western areas [of Beirut]. He said: There is no similarity between events in the western and the eastern areas. What is happening in the western area arises from the various regional conflicts and is directly linked to the Middle East crisis. He added that peace in Lebanon is not in the hands of the Lebanese people alone, but is dependent on Middle East developments and on the continuing regional conflicts.

Regarding the relationship between the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Forces, Pagraduni said: The debate now in progress concerns the nature of the two parties. The Phalangist Party is a party and an ideology, while the Lebanese Forces represent resistance and an issue. What happened today is a tentative step toward the reforms that must be undertaken. He hoped that the party leadership would hold an important celebration on its 50th anniversary because there are very few parties in the Middle East that have survived for 50 years.

Paqraduni discussed the issues of security, reforms, and justice. He said he is not convinced that the state is capable at the present time of assuming responsibility for security, particularly military and political security. It is, however, capable of dealing with judicial matters, he declared.

Further on Interview

NC010822 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0545 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpts] In a television interview carried by the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation last night, Karim Paqraduni called for the formation of a national emergency committee. That body, which should include representatives of all effective forces from the Christian and Muslim communities, would be chaired by Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. Its headquarters should be in Mansur Palace [the Chamber of Deputies building.

When asked if the Lebanese Forces had a plan following their rejection of the tripartite agreement, Paqraduni said there are two:

1. Comprehensive secularization in Lebanon;

2. Reorganization of Lebanon's sectarian system on a just basis.

Paqraduni expressed his belief that the Lebanese crisis can be solved by convening an international conference with U.S. and Soviet participation. He described the president's recent tour as the first step in the internationalization of the Lebanese crisis.

Phalangist Party Announces New Appointments

NC281258 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] The Phalangist Party's Political Bureau has announced the following appointments:

George Qassis: head of the National Security Department;
Samir Khuwayri: chairman of the Security Council;
Butrus Khawand: head of the Inspection Department;
Sim'an Karam: head of the Propaganda Department;
Shawqi al-Firkh: head of the Mobilization Department;
Antoine Shadir: chairman of the Financial Council;
Alfred Madi: chairman of the Foreign Relations Council;
George Kassab: head of the Kasrawan District;
Antoine Ghanim: head of the B'abda District; and,
Elie Butrus: head of the Students Department.

Army Commander 'Awn Cited on Role of Military

NC010745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Commander of the Army General Michel 'Awn has said it is illogical to demand the Army's withdrawal, because it would give the militias a free hand. He said that it is a mistake to interpret the Army Command's silence as inability or indifference. 'Awn noted that the Army is always concerned about events in the homeland and those involving every Lebanese citizen.

The general's statement appears in the latest edition of the Army's magazine. He made it during a visit to the magazine's offices during one of his regular meetings with the Army's military and civilian personnel.

Clashes Reported Along Mountain Combat Lines

NC011755 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Security sources reported this evening that the security situation suffered a setback at 1700 today. Clashes took place on the combat lines of Ra's al-Jabal, 'Aytat, Suq al-Gharb, and Kayfun during which tank guns and artillery were used.

Progressive Socialist Party sources confirmed that the Ra's al-Jabal area came under artillery fire. The Al-Karamah Road was closed by flat trajectory weapons' fire and Al-Shuwayfat was hit by machinegun and rocket fire from Kafr Shima, while the Dahr al-Wahsh combat line was the scene of exchanges of machinegun fire. The Security Committee has been making efforts to stop the shooting.

We were informed a short while ago that the fighting in the mountain area stopped at 1755 today. Automatic weapons fire is continuing on the Suq al-Gharb-Kayfun combat line.

Rocket Fire Wounds 6; Armenian Leader Killed

NC031036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Calm has been prevailing in the capital and the mountain since this morning. However, a number of rockets were fired at some eastern areas this morning, wounding six people.

In another development, (Zaven Garabet Tashidjian), leader of the Armenian Tashnag Party, was assassinated in 'Anjar today. An armed person entered (Zaven's) shop and shot him fatally.

550 Beirut Apartments Rented for 'Arafat

NC010738 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, 550 luxury apartments were recently rented for Yasir 'Arafat. These apartments are in the areas of the Arab university, Corniche al-Mazra'ah, Burj Abu Haydar, Al-Tariq al-Jadidah, Verdun, and al-Hamra. The annual rent for each apartment is 100,000 Lebanese pounds. An organization located in Beirut and the mountain, whichsympathizes and is allied with 'Arafat, helped to arrange the rental.

After rumors had spread that scared the Amal Movement, Damascus recalled the Syrian observers in West Beirut to learn how strong 'Arafat is there. A source close to 'Arafat has stated: Perhaps we have moved away from a military solution now that the Western area is being flooded with dollars on the behalf of the PLO leader and now that the conflict within Amal is boosting the influence of Hasan Hashim, who is prepared to coordinate with a moderate government official in West Beirut.

Fighting on Beirut Lines; Crossings Closed

NC011742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Clashes involving the use of various types of weapons are taking place on the Al-Tayyunah, Al-Hadath, and Al-Laylakah combat lines. The skirmishes on the mountain combat lines ceased at 1600 today. Security Committee sources report that movement between East and West Beirut is completely paralyzed because the Al-Kafa'at-Al-Murayjah crossing point was closed after it came under sniper fire. The Al-Masalih-Qasqas crossing point has been closed since this morning.

Israelis, Lahd Transfer Detainees to Israel

NC281428 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] The occupation forces and the agent Lahd militias have begun transferring detainees from inside the border strip in Al-Khiyam and Bint Jubayl to Israel. Observers are wondering if the purpose of this step to press for the release of the two Israeli prisoners or the step is part of a withdrawal.

In Wadi Zibbin, the enemy forces dismantled two katyushas that were directed on Marj 'Uyun barracks. The forces then carried out searches in the area.

The Lebanese National Resistance Front today announced that the martyr Muhammad Sa'd group of the Al-Aqsa Liberation Forces fired two 107-mm rockets at an enemy position near the 'Ayta Al-Sha'b-Bayt Lif juncture at dawn today. The rockets scored direct hits, causing a fire.

Resistance Attacks Lahd, Israeli Positions

NC011810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front has announced that on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the martyrdom of the national leader, Ma'ruf Sa'd, the martyr Fadl Surur group stormed a Lahd militia position on Al-Ru'us Hill, in the Jazzin District, and destroyed it.

A statement issued by the front said that, at 0900 today, members of the group launched a surprise attack on the position, using rockets, hand grenades, and automatic weapons. Three militiamen were killed. A support group also destroyed a civilian BMW parked in the area and a 14.5-mm machinegun. Following this operation, the Israeli enemy heavily shelled the surrounding area with various types of weapons in an attempt to besiege the group, but it managed to retreat after two fighters were wounded.

Early this morning, resistance fighters launched a rocket attack against a position jointly held by the occupation forces and the agent Lahd militia on Jabal Basil, scoring direct hits. Smoke was seen rising from the position.

People's Assembly Meets; Adjourns to 5 Mar

JN011913 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The People's Assembly held its second session of its first ordinary round of meetings at 1800 today under Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi and in the presence of a number of ministers.

At the beginning of the session, the assembly office report was read concerning naming members to permanent committees, which are the:

Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee; Budget and Accounts Committee; Financial Laws Committee; Arab and Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Committee; Guidance Committee; Planning and Production Committee; Services Committee; National Security Committee; Committee for Internal Affairs and Local Administration; Complaints and Petitions Committee; and the Agriculture and Irrigation Committee.

The Assembly approved the members of these committees. The committees then met separately and elected their special bureaus.

After the Assembly speaker congratulated the members of committee bureaus on the confidence placed in them by their colleagues, he reminded Assembly members of the huge tasks with which they are entrusted and of the historic speech President Hafiz al-Asad delivered during the opening session. He also reminded them of the meanings and ideas included in this speech and of the need to interpret them into tangible reality and to implement all that was contained in it.

The session was adjourned until 1800 on Wednesday, 5 March.

Report Issued on Nabulus Mayor's Assassination

JN021400 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Occupied homeland say that Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri was assassinated by unidentified men today, some 4 months after assuming this post. The reports add that Al-Masri, who was 44 years old, was appointed by the Israeli occupation authorities as mayor of Nabulus in addition to his post as chairman of the Nabulus Chamber of Commerce.

Israeli occupation forces surrounded the city and imposed a curfew on it.

Al-Kasm To Pay Official Visit to Turkey 3-7 March

JN021845 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — At the invitation of Turkish Prime MinisterTurgut Ozal, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm will pay an official visit to Turkey 3-7 March 1986. A number of ministers and state officials will accompany the prime minister on this visit.

Egyptian Regime Faces 'Armed Popular Uprising'

JN021642 Damascus Voice of Arab Egypt in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Arab brothers in Egypt and the Arab homeland: Nobody expects the Egyptian regime and its defenders to admit that what is currently being witnessed by Egypt is a real uprising that has spread like fire to engulf Cairo and other Egyptian cities. The Egyptian regime is determined to conceal the truth about what is taking place because admitting the existence of a popular uprising will mean that the regime acknowledges that it has been isolated by the people and that Egyptian citizens have moved to the phase of direct confrontation with the regime in order to liberate Egypt from the Camp David chains, which deprived Egypt of its freedom and national decisionmaking and subjected it to U.S. and Zionist hegemony.

The Egyptian regime and its defenders were surprised by the strength and breadth of the armed popular uprising. They did not know what to do other than use the armed forces in order to strike at it and liquidate it. They said that the uprising began as a result of a rumor. When it spread to Cairo, Al-Jizah, Asyut, Al-Qalyubiyah, and Alexandria, they said that there were disturbances, so they declared a curfew and carried out military exercises in order to contain and strike at the uprising. Finally, they came out with the ridiculous charge that every detainee was found carrying 50 Egyptian pounds. But they soon forgot this charge because they know that they cannot deceive anyone when they accuse an entire uprising people of receiving money in order to take part in the riots. their lie collpased.

Faced with this deep crisis and serious dilemma, the Egyptian regime had no choice but to export its crisis by putting the blame on all those who defended the Egyptian Arab people's uprising against the Camp David regime, which has turned into an instrument for implementing the plans of the Zionist enemy and the United States in the region. Therefore, the defamation campaigns started by the Egyptian regime are aimed at covering up its suppressive campaigns against the rising Egyptian masses and hinting that what has taken place in Egypt is due to outside factors.

But the Egyptian regime alone knows the acuteness of its crisis. Its defenders also know the extent of collapse in that regime, which is fettered by the Camp David chains. Suppressive methods will not prevent the Egyptian people from continuing their struggle, for they have decided to regain their freedom and break their chains. Egypt will only be a free, Arab country and will take its place in the arena of Arab confrontation against the Zionist invaders and their U.S. allies.

Nabulus Arab Mayor Al-Masri Murdered 2 Mar

TA020705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The mayor of Nabulus, Zafir al-Masri, was murdered an hour ago when he was about to enter the municipality building. Two unidentified people shot him at short range. He was mortally wounded and died on the way to the hospital.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the security forces have imposed a curfew on the city.

Zafir al-Masri was appointed by the Civilian Administration as mayor of Nabulus last November, after a long period in which an Israeli Army officer conducted the city's affairs. Our correspondent reports that several townsmen have already condemned the murder.

Nabulus Town Council Meets

TA021059 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1032 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Let us return to Nabulus and an updated report on events there. Our Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck is on the line from the Nabulus City Hall, and this is his report:

[Beck] A few minutes ago, Colonel Sene, the head of the Civilian Administration, and Shlomo Goren, the coordinator of activities in the territories, arrived at the Nabulus town hall, in the center of the city. They heard an initial report on the events that occurred this morning. Right now, the town council is in session, and Al-Masri's deputy, Hafiz Tuqan, who was appointed acting mayor, and Col Sene are also participating in this first meeting [after the incident].

We wished to hear the opinion of some of the town councilmen. They are all in deep shock, and have talked about a great loss. It is too premature to mention the future ramifications and impact this will have on the municipality's functioning, the situation here in Nabulus, or the process of appointing [Arab] mayors in the entire West Bank. At any rate, several people here were prepared to say that this will definitely have a negative effect, although for the moment they plan to carry on business as usual, to the extent possible.

The area of the center of town, near the Town Hall, is still under curfew. We talked with some local inhabitants, who were all shocked and expressed appreciation for Zafir al-Masri's personality and work.

When Col Sene first reached the area, we asked him for an initial assessment of the perpetrators of the deed. He believes, and again let us emphasize that this is merely a preliminary conjecture, that they were extremist elements belonging to the Rejectionist Front in the West Bank, who wished to prevent any progress in the direction of an improvement of the standard of living and the transfer of authority to the local inhabitants identified either with Jordan or with the PLO [sentence as heard].

In any case, from initial details of the murder it transpires that Zafir al-Masri was on his way from his home, and was a few meters away from the city hall. He approached the building, where an armed man was awaiting him. He fired two bullets while Al-Masri was conversing with a third man, and the assailant fled in the direction of the casbah.

As we have said, the partial curfew is still in effect in the vicinity of the city hall, to facilitate searches for the murderer. All the local inhabitants we have talked to expressed their shock over the murder and the hope that the half-crazed assassin, as they called him, will be captured soon.

[Announcer 'Adi Talmor] Our police affairs correspondent, Limor Nahum, has updated us now and reports that the bullets that struck the Nabulus mayor were 7.65-mm in diameter. One bullet hit him in the heart, and the other in the thigh. Zafir al-Masri's funeral will take place in Nabulus tomorrow.

'Violent Demonstrations' Follow

TA031140 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] In Nabulus, thousands of mourners are preparing to attend the funeral of Zafir al-Masri, the mayor of the town, who was gunned down yesterday. In the nearby refugee camp of Balatah, a youth demonstrating was shot dead by Israeli Army soldiers. From Nabulus, Jerry Cheslow reports:

The muezzin at the Hajj Ma'zuz al-Masri Mosque in central Nabulus is now reading out phrases from the Koran. This is a sign of mourning for slain mayor Zafir al-Masri. The funeral cortege has just passed, headed by a fire engine. The hearse and dozens of cars with photos of Zafir al-Masri taped to them passed. Al-Masri is to lie in state in his brother's home for 2 hours before being buried at the cemetary across from the municipal building.

This morning the large refugee camp near Nabulus, Balatah, was placed under curfew following violent demonstrations connected with the murder of Al-Masri. The demonstrations started with shouts against the assassination and against King Husayn of Jordan, and for Yasir 'Arafat. According to military sources, 30 masked demonstrators then stoned Israeli military vehicles. The Army came to disperse them and, according to the sources, one youth jumped on a soldier and started choking him. The youth was shot by another soldier.

The murder of Zafir al-Masri has already had its effect on Israeli policy in the territories. Two prospective candidates for mayoral posts in two other West Bank towns have announced that they are withdrawing from the race. One blames Israel for failing to protect Zafir al-Masri and for turning the mayoral post into a political office by calling for unilateral autonomy in the territories.

Cabinet Communique on Murder

TA021135 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1128 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The Cabinet session has just ended. The Cabinet communique, with the Cabinet's remarks on the murder of the Nabulus mayor, is read by Cabinet Secretary Yosi Beilin:

[Begin Beilin recording] The Cabinet session today opened with the prime minister's statement in light of the murder of Zafir al-Masri, the mayor of Nabulus. The prime minister sent his condolences to the family, and expressed appreciation for Al-Masri's deeds in the short period in which he served as mayor. His murder is a blow to the inhabitants of the territories and to anyone who seeks to find progress toward calm and understanding. He said that the assassination will not deter the Israeli Government from offering the inhabitants of the territories the opportunity to conduct their own affairs. The prime minister noted that Arab terrorism strikes first of all at the Arabs themselves, and has made their life unbearable. The prime minister said that the Cabinet will take all the measures at its disposal to find the killers and bring them to trial. He expressed the hope that a suitable replacement will be found for Al-Masri. [end recording]

Government Officials React

TA021641 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The prime minister has said that the murder of Al-Masri in Nabulus is a blow to the inhabitants of the territories and those who want to see progress toward tranquillity and understanding. Mr Peres said in today's Cabinet session that the murder would not deter the Israeli Government from proposing that the inhabitants of the territories run their own affairs. Government circles believe that the reason for the murder lies in the struggle among PLO factions. Ministers today expressed the fear that the murder might deter the local population from taking part in the devolution plan. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

Al-Masri's murder in Nabulus this morning was bad news, particularly to those political leaders who advocate the inclusion of local inhabitants in running affairs in the territories, or what is currently known as the devolution plan. Al-Masri was an example, almost unique, of the desired type of humble cooperation between the inhabitants of the territories and the Israeli authorities: not political cooperation but rather a practical handling of daily problems in the area. The devolution plan includes the appointment of another three Arab mayors in the West Bank. The question now facing planners is whether they will have an interlocutor. Another question reflecting deeper fears is whether the Nabulus murder might not close the mouths of those in the territories, no matter how few, who until this morning were ready to heed King Husayn's call to support him in his dispute with the PLO leaders.

In a briefing to the press this afternoon, government circles said the murder reflects the struggle among PLO factions, and the motives are different than those leading to the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi. The extremist organizations are not prepared to tolerate the activities of moderate figures who are prepared for a limited degree of cooperation with Israel. It should be noted that Al-Masri was appointed with the knowledge and approval of King Husayn and, apparently, of Yasir 'Arafat as well.

The government circles note that efforts must now be stepped up to establish a dialogue with the inhabitants of the territories and perhaps even to make specific moves in this direction. They said that the extremist organizations should not be given a feeling of victory. After the Cabinet session we heard from two ministers, Ya'aqov Tzur and Amnon Rubinstein, about the need to establish a dialogue and the accompanying fears.

[Begin recording] [Tzur] There is no doubt that notwithstanding the tragedy of this event, we expect it to serve as another sign to the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria — to the Palestinians living in Judaea and Samaria — that the terrorist organizations are preventing any progress toward understanding, cooperation, and negotiations. The time has come for the inhabitants of the territories to take their fate into their own hands and, particularly in light of this event, heed Husayn's call and the call of the Israeli Government to abandon the path of the PLO and the terrorist groups and to realize that the only solution is to sit around the negotiating table, which would include representatives of Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinians, first and foremost those Palestinians living in Judaea and Samaria.

[Rubinstein] This is a shocking event which once again proves that terrorism is not only the enemy of Israel, but also of the Arabs in general and of the Arabs in the territories in particular. I knew the late mayor and I think he wanted to contribute to his people and town. I am concerned about the implications of this brutal murder on the government's plan to expand self-rule and give more power to the inhabitants of the territories.

[Frankel] Do you think there will be somebody to talk to in the territories in the wake of the murder, that there will be people ready to cooperate with Israel in improving living standards, not to mention political issues?

[Rubinstein] That is what I am anxious about. I hope this brutal murder does not achieve its purpose, and that enough people can be found who say no to terror, which endangers Palestinians no less than it does Israelis. [end recording]

Goren Comments

TA021614 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Interview with Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of activities in the territories, by Rafi Reshef — live in studio]

[Excerpts] [Reshef] Shmu'el Goren, could you tell us, since you had special relations with Al-Masri, what sort of man he was, what his positions were?

[Goren] That is correct. I certainly did have very special relations with him. In addition to official contacts, we used to meet from time to time for unofficial conversations. I think Zafir al-Masri was a new type of leader, very pragmatic, very purposeful, and very wise. I would like to recall, in quote marks, the saying that he was not a lover of Israel. That is absolutely incorrect. He did not want us, and he would have preferred that we leave, but he understood that nothing can be achieved through terrorism and he opted to follow his own path.

[Reshef] Mr Goren, how will this murder affect Israeli policy in Juadea and Samaria, in your opinion?

[Goren] I do not think we have to alter our basic policy. It is difficult to predict. I believe that some of the population will certainly think about things more seriously, but basically I do not think we need to change our policy, which is to help most of the inhabitants conduct their lives on their own as far as possible. This is the line we must follow and carry on.

[Reshef] Would you say that the talk about unilateral autonomy is facilitating or interfering with your conducting of the policy which the prime minister has called a devolution of authority?

[Goren] Here you are touching on a political issue that is too important, sensitive, and even more than that too vital, for me to discuss in the media.

Chief of Staff Comments

TA021519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The chief of staff has said that the murder of Zafir al-Masri is a very grave act. He emphasized that the IDF will deal with security in the territories and that inhabitants should continue to deal with every matter they can take care of themselves. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that today Lieutenant General Moshe Levi toured Nabulus and the site of the murder. He said guards may have to be assigned to people holding posts in the territories. However, he pointed out that this could make them targets for attacks. He also said the IDF will continue with combing operations and searches for the murderer. In the chief of staff's opinion, the murdered man's family should be permitted to hold the funeral in accordance with its own customs.

Frayj Sees 'Serious Ramifications'

TA020814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj has strongly condemned the assassination of Nabulus Mayor Zafir Al-Masri. Speaking to our correspondent Yaron Enosh, Frayj said that this is a most tragic event which will have very serious ramifications on events in Judaea and Samaria and the future of the moves regarding local matters. He said Zafir al-Masri was a young, intelligent man of a true national belief and was a true friend of his. He added that when guns speak, mouths are kept shut.

'Israel' Blamed for Murder

TA030549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Former Nabulus Mayor Bassam al-Shak'ah has condemned the killing of his successor Zafir al-Masri. Al-Shak'ah blames Israel for the murder. He said that when he was a target of assassination in 1982 Israelis blamed the Fatah organization, but later on it was proved that an Israeli tried to kill Al-Shak'ah.

The Abu Nidal group and George Habash's Popular Front have claimed responsibility for the assassination.

Arab Candidates Reconsidering

TA030628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri will be buried this afternoon in his town. In preparation for the funeral ceremony, the security forces will lift the curfew imposed on the town. Many of Al-Masri's family from Jordan are expected to attend the funeral, and the Civilian Administration has eased their entry via the bridges.

The murder has already affected the political activity in the territories. One of the lists competing for the Al-Birah Municipality has retracted its candidacy. Our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria, Arye Gus, reports that the list of Walid Hamid, who is closely associated with the deposed mayor of Nabulus, announced that in the wake of the new situation it has decided to retract its candidacy in order to preserve the nation's unity. The head of the other list, Jamil al-Tarifi, told our correspondent that he is examining the situation, and that his list has not yet decided how to act.

The East Jerusalem newspapers report the murder in enormous headlines. The editorials are unified in their opinion that the murder of Zafir al-Masri has struck a heavy blow to the Palestinian issue.

Zarru Denies Candidacy, Departs

TA030830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] One of the candidates for the position of mayor of Ramallah, Nadim Zarru, has declared that he never submitted his candidacy for mayoralty, and that he is opposed to this step. However, our correspondent has learned that Nadim Zarru was one of the main candidates, and that yesterday he left the territories hastily for Jordan. Zarru was once the mayor of Ramallah, but was deported. Several years ago he was permitted to return to the territories.

Press Analyzes Ramifications

TA030813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] Today most of the newspapers write about the murder of Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri. *DAVAR* writes that even in Western democratic countries, a country can fall victim to an assassin's bullet, as happened last week in Stockholm. In the Middle East, however, the murder of politicians and public notables is a political method. This method is not foreign to the Palestinians: Victims in the territories have also been murdered, especially those holding moderate positions, such as the late Gaza imam, Hashim al-Khazandar, the heads of the Arab village leagues in Ramallah, and now the mayor of Nabulus. This is a tragedy-laden method, which enables small groups to instill terror and fear in order to promote their radical positions. It is possible that the bullet aimed at Al-Masri was not aimed at him because of his position as mayor under Israeli rule, but rather because of his association with Jordan. The deepening of the rift between King Husayn and PLO could be the reason for the murder.

HA'ARETZ, on the other hand, believes there is no need to dispute the accuracy of the assumption that the PLO leadership silently agreed to the appointment of Al-Masri. He was sentenced to death because he was acceptable to the Jordanian monarch and because he agreed to accept the mayoral appointment from Israel. The Nabulus mayor's name can be added to the growing list of Arab leaders who are singled out to die because they displayed willingness to compromise in some way with Israel: King 'Abdallah, Anwar al-Sadat, and Isam Sirtawi. The bullets which were fired at the Nabulus mayor were aimed at deterring the Jordanian king, and particularly aimed at frightening notables in the territories who have displyed willingness to accept managerial positions. The actual assassination of Zafir al-Masri proves to what extent the radicals in the PLO camp feared the Nabulus precedent. From the rejectionist front's viewpoint, it was necessary to eliminate the man who Israel could point to as living proof of the possibility of coexistence under its rule.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that it is too early to reach conclusions as to who the murderers are; nevertheless, it is obvious that the attempt to set up a Palestinian delegation made up of mayors to join in the negotiations will not succeed. The first in the list of notables who were appointed by the administration has already paid with his life. This is the result of the perception of a unilateral autonomy. The Palestinians in the territories are constantly claiming that Israel is preventing them from consolidating leadership in a democratic way. When there is no political struggle between various streams, murder solves disputes. Of course, the murder must be condemned. The murder proves that terrorism, which was aimed at harming Jews, is ultimately directed at the Palestinians themselves. Those who are responsible for the murder are certainly enemies of Israel, but no less enemies of the Palestinians. Their fate lies in the results of the gloomy struggles within the various terrorist organizations. However, the idea of self-rule through appointments by the administration or through unilateral autonomy has exemplified what can be expected in the future if Israel adopts a solution-nonsolution in the territories.

HATZOFE writes that the murder in Nabulus undoubtedly hinders the plans to establish a Palestinian leadership among the Arabs of the territories that would be responsible for negotiating with Israel. The murder should cause us to open our eyes and avoid hastily adopting such plans when it is obvious to everyone that we have no one to talk to. As long as the murderers, enemies of peace, are in evidence, it is highly doubtful that there is any point in changing existing arrangements. It is obvious that an apparent moderate leadership cannot be depended on when experience proves that it does not have a real stronghold in Arab life, which is controlled by radical forces.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that the foul murder of the Nabulus mayor by supporters of the rejectionist front poses a challenge to the residents of the territories. Will they press for the formation of a new leadership that would strive to reach a compromise, or will they bow to the physical threats of terrorist organizations that act outside the territories? The time for decision is running out. The murder in Nabulus was aimed at Yasir 'Arafat, King Husayn, and Israel. Yet the PLO chairman can hardly wash his hands clean. His disagreement with George Habash's PFLP may be rather more than tactical. Yasir 'Arafat is too indecisive to draw the line clearly and unambiguously in the positions between the PLO and the rejectionist organizations, which is why King Husayn gave him a bill of divorcement. Now it is plainly for the Palestinians to decide whether to let themselves be terrorized out of seeking peace, or to stand up for their right to life.

Arabic Radio Commentary

JN021532 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1439 GMT 2 Mar 86

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Dear listeners, we will not be exceeding the truth of anticipating events if we say that the assassination of Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri today was a criminal murder and another bestial crime in the context of intra-Palestinian terrorism — a physical and intellectual terrorism which the organizations have unleashed against all Palestinians and which the leaders of these organizations, both those for and against 'Arafat, are using against one another.

Of course, none of the leaders of these organizations will admit the existence of this terrorism. Regardless of whether this or that organization has announced today or will announce tomorrow its criminal, terroristic responsibility for assassinating Zafir al-Masri; and regardless of whether the leaders of this or that organization quickly express their profound grief and shock and extend their sincere condolences to the family and relatives of the deceased; regardless of all these things, the tragic fact remains that the Palestinians and their problem and future continue to be hostage to the leaders of these murderous, terrorist organizations and the primary victims of intra-Palestinian and inter-Arab terrorism.

Those who know the facts will not find it difficult to see that this despicable, terrorist crime, which took the life of Zafir al-Masri and coincided with the recent crisis of confidence and credibility between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat's organization, has two objectives: On the one hand, it seeks to heighten intellectual and physical terrorism against Palestinians inside and outside the administered area and to threaten them against expressing support for King Husayn or pursuing the course of peace and a peaceful settlement; and on the other, it wants the sound of the treacherous, terrorist bullets which killed Zafir al-Masri to be heard in Amman and by King Husayn himself.

In such circumstances, one cannot but say: poor Palestinians. The leaders of the murderous, terrorist organizations are determined to tamper with the cause and destiny of the Palestinian people despite all the disasters and tragedies they have caused to the Palestinians and others throughout the past decades. May God help the Palestinians and give them patience and solace.

Peres Not To Attend Portugal's Soares Swearing-in

TA020835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will attend the opening of the Herut Party convention at Binyeney Ha'ooma in Jerusalem next Sunday. Mario Soares will be sworn in as the president of Portugal on the same day, and the prime minister, who was invited to participate in the event, has decided not to go. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Herut Movement leaders will hold meetings of their various camps throughout this week to prepare for the competition in the convention.

Peres Criticizes Reaction to Egyptian Events

TA012016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has criticized so-called political circles in Jerusalem for having, as he phrased it, jumped for joy when the rioting began in Egypt. We did not make peace in order to rejoice at a country's problems, Mr Peres said. He was speaking at the conclusion of a conference of student members of the Labor Party in Bet Berl.

Mubarak Expresses Appreciation for Peres' Support

TA020955 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
2 Mar 86 pp 1, 8

[Report by Roni Shaqed and Smadar Peri]

[Excerpt] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has thanked Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for the words of encouragement he had conveyed to him following the riots in Egypt. Mubarak transmitted his gratitude through Minister 'Ezer Weizman, who telephoned him in Cairo over the weekend to express words of solidarity and encouragement during Egypt's difficult times.

Shamir on Al-Asad Intentions, Al-Masri Murder

TA022122 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2100 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening accused Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad of striving to achieve supremacy over Israel under the guise of talk about a strategic balance. Shamir suggested that Al-Asad bear in mind the fate of those who have striven to destroy the Israeli people, beginning with Hitler and Eichmann through the Arab leaders who attacked the State of Israel upon its foundation. He noted that Israel would remain on the Golan Heights but that it is prepared to negotiate peace. Shamir was addressing a rally of the Dutch United Jewish Appeal in Jerusalem.

Referring to the murder of the mayor of Nabulus, Shamir said that terrorist organizations endanger the Arabs more than they do the Jews, and that the murder shows what would happen in parts of Eretz Yisra'el were the IDF to withdraw from them.

Maj Gen Peled: Syria Preparing for Confrontation

TA030540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Major General Yosi Peled believes that Syria is currently preparing for a possible full-scale confrontation with Israel. In his opinion, Israel in the next war will have to overcome fortifications which it has not come across in the past, including minefields and anti-tank ditches. Precise and long-range sophisticated weapons have been deployed in the field which can hit places which in the past were unattainable to the enemy, especially in the rear area. Maj Gen Peled is about to become commander of the Northern Command. He was talking to our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal.

IDF Kills 2 Terrorists Trying To Infiltrate North

TA011832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Two terrorists have been killed after they tried to infiltrate across the border from Lebanon into Israel. One Israeli soldier was slightly wounded by grenade shrapnel in the encounter with the terrorists, who apparently were members of Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front organization. The terrorists were dressed in Israeli Army uniforms and, according to a pamphlet found on them, intended to attack an Israeli settlement and to take Israeli hostages. Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami, back from the northern border, has more information:

[Ben-'Ami] The terrorists were trying to cross the northern border fence at about 0130 this morning, not far from the Moshav settlement Shetula, when they were spotted by an Israeli patrol. Lieutenant Avi, the officer in charge, told me what happened then.

[Begin recording] [Avi] We started shooting towards the terrorists. We didn't really know exactly how many were they or where are they hiding. We just shot to prevent them from advancing to our, to Israel. As we stood up a grenade was thrown at us. We heard it and we all ducked. We went down, there was explosion, and I was injured very slightly.

[Ben-'Ami] Where?

[Avi] Slightly injured in my shoulder, but everything was under control, we started firing again towards the, where we presume the grenade was thrown from, and afterwards we tried to go up, to get up again and this time three grenades were thrown at us from a different direction and we started shooting to prevent them from doing it again. Meanwhile a lot of troops came in and we shot a lot of flares and it was like daylight and so they couldn't advance. They advanced slowly, we cried for them with all kinds of loudspeakers, that they are surrounded, they have to surrender, that they have no chance. We went in and started to chase them. After about approximately 1 km, maybe 1 and a half from the fence, in the valley that we went into, we had eye contact with them; we started shooting. I can't say that there was a fight, they tried to shoot at us a little, but then they had no chance.

[Ben-'Ami] How would you describe the terrorists, the action that they took?

[Avi] I would think, look, they are young people, I think they were quite frightened. After we came, I think they were maybe shocked from the speed that we arrived and we started shooting and everything was, all the system was at action, and I think that's what frightened them and they went back. They went in to try to capture some citizens, maybe from the settlements around here, and maybe to, or to kill them, or to try and take hostages and that meant that we will have to pay a very high price again to release the hostages. That's what I think they were up to, but finally they didn't succeed.

[Ben-'Ami] Is it the first action that you've been in?

[Avi] Not really, you can't say, it's not the first action, I was already once under fire in Lebanon, but I can't say that I am used to it. It's not a thing that you get used to. It happens and you have to act like you were trained for 3 years, 4 years. We have a war. It's like a war, because every day we have to be very alert; we have to be very aware of all the dangerous things that can happen on the fence. [end recording]

[Ben-'Ami] The terrorists were dressed in Israeli Army uniforms with civilian clothes beneath. One of them also had a skullcap worn by religious Jews in his pocket, indicating that he at least, perhaps, intended to try and penetrate further into Israel for an attack, passing himself off as a Jew to anyone he met on the way. Together with their personal weapons, the terrorists had binoculars, grenades, a compass, map, and some food and a pamphlet indicating that their aim was to attack a civilian settlement and to take hostages. None of the Israeli items with the terrorists belonged to the two Israeli soldiers who were ambushed and captured in south Lebanon last week. Alan Ben-'Ami, Jerusalem.

Our reporter adds that border settlements were put on the alert until a thorough search had established that no terrorists were in the area or had penetrated into Israel.

Army Sources Say Syria Responsible

TA020625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Israel sees Syria as responsible for the squad that tried to penetrate the northern border. This has been stated by senior Army sources. Approximately 3 months ago there was another penetration attempt by a squad belonging to the DFLP led by Nayif Hawatimah. That squad was on its way to carry out an attack aimed at capturing men that could have been used as a bargaining chip with Israel. That squad departed Damascus. Here is a report by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal:

[Begin recording] [Tal] The infiltration attempt over the weekend may not be an outstanding event, but nevertheless attention must be paid to what characterizes the people who tried to penetrate. They used IDF-issue arms, wore uniforms similar to the IDF uniform, and donned skullcaps. They undoubtedly wished to appear as IDF soldiers and carry out an attack whose victims would be used as bargaining chips. One must also pay attention to the fact that this is already the second infiltration attempt since December blocked along the defense fence, which shows that despite the security strip, an armed squad has managed to approach the northern settlements. According to a senior officer in the north, in addition to the blocking operation along the fence, this also required defense activity by the settlements themselves.

[Unidentified IDF officer] We focused mainly on Israel's territory, namely on closing the settlements close to the border. We did this in conjunction with the local inhabitants and with an IDF unit. Once we were sure beyond a doubt that the squad failed to penetrate the border, we made a concerted effort in our searches inside the security strip. We closed the axes leading to the site of the penetration with infantry units together with armored personnel carriers, other infantry units, and helicopters. After the searches began, we made contact with the two terrorists which resulted in the death of the two.

[Tal] The security strip north of this region is supposed to make sure that if there are clashes, they will be confined to the security strip, or north of it. But this is the second clash within a rather short time to occur along the defense fence. How do you assess the functioning of that fence in light of what happened yesterday?

[Unidentified IDF officer] My assessment is that the security strip has proved its worth. Thanks to what we call the security strip, we (?support) a further area in which army of southern Lebanon [ASL] units operate, and we (?rely on it). The very fact that the ASL carries out patrols and is deployed along the northern boundaries of the security strip lessens the terrorists' activity and increases their risk in trying to approach the Purple Line. Naturally, as I said, the activity is a joint effort and I think there is full justification to maintaining the security strip in its present form.

[Tal] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi will hear reports on the infiltration attempt and the operation of the unit that killed the terrorists in a briefing this morning. [end recording]

Moshe Levi on Security Zone Activity

TA021842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi says the security zone continues to justify itself. Levi's remarks follow yesterday's shoot-out with terrorists along the northern border. He was speaking at the Druze village of Yirka during a celebration honoring the outgoing head of the Southern Command, Major General Moshe Bar-Kochba. Vivien Royston reports:

Chief of Staff Lt Gen Moshe Levi believes that if a decision is taken to withdraw from the security zone it will be the wrong decision. Speaking to journalists at the Druze village of Yirka in the Galilee after interviewing base soldiers on the northern border involved in the successful foiling of the terrorist attempt to infiltrate Israel, Levi maintained that Israel must increase its efforts north of the border to prevent actions taking place on the border or within Israel. Many terrorist attempts are made, he said, and only last night an Israeli Army patrol encountered several terrorists north of the security zone and one terrorist was killed. Most attempts are foiled before reaching the border and this in the chief of staff's opinion justifies the present policy. In Levi's opinion, Amal is not one organization but is made up of many different groups. He is convinced that the mainstream of south Lebanese civilians understand that if they assist terrorists everyone in the area will suffer. However, the general added, there will always be extremists with their own particular goals. But, he stressed, Israel will hit back at those who attack her but those who leave Israel alone will be left to live in peace.

Another Killed Late 1 Mar

TA021000 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0957 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] An IDF unit killed a terrorist in the western sector of the security strip last night, in the course of an encounter with a terrorist squad. Our forces sustained no casualties. Searches conducted in the area of the clash revealed a Soviet-made 88-mm mortar, shells, and two Kalashnikov rifles. The clash occurred in the northern part of the southern Lebanese security strip. The IDF unit that killed the terrorist belongs to the Golani [infantry] brigade. This is the end of the IDF spokesman's announcement.

Agriculture Minister Pays 'Secret' Visit to PRC

TA281412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin has paid a secret visit to the PRC, flying there on an Israeli passport, in order to promote agricultural ties between the two countries. This was reported today in the *TZOMET HASHARON* local newspaper. Minister Nehamkin said he will not react to the report before China officially requests that Israel establish agricultural ties with it.

Foreign Ministry Denies Report

TA020702 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] China has denied an Israeli report that Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin made a secret visit to China to promote agricultural cooperation. In Jerusalem, the Foreign Ministry also denied the report.

Nehamkin Calls Report 'Rubbish'

TA020950 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Mar 86 pp 1, 8

[Report by Aharon Pri'el]

[Text] "My alleged clandestine trip to the PRC is a load of rubbish. It never happened," said Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin in reaction to a local paper report that claimed that he had gone to the PRC late in January.

Representatives of PRC companies and institutions who have recently met with Agriculture Minister Nehamkin told him: "As far as agriculture is concerned, Israel has precisely what we need. We do not want massive U.S. assistance in agricultural and technological development since we are afraid of U.S. strength and power; nor do we want Soviet aid and involvement in our country, since we do not exactly love them."

The Agriculture Ministry has responded to a question on such a meeting with a: "No comment."

The agriculture minister denied the existence of a "direct link" between Israel and the PRC for the purpose of the implementation of development projects in agriculture and technology, which were agreed upon last May during the visit in Beijing of an Israeli delegation led by Prof Shmu'el Pohoryles, the director of the Joint Agricultural Planning and Development Authority.

MA'ARIV has learned that approximately 2 months ago, the Chinese approved the projects proposed by the Israeli experts who toured Beijing last May.

A few weeks ago, Israeli businessmen were told by representatives of Chinese companies and organizations of the latter's readiness to maintain direct contact with Israel for the implementation of various development plans, in lieu of using the good services of a go-between, who is a resident of a Middle Eastern country and who has close ties with Chinese Administration officials and is considered a "persona grata" in Israel.

In light of the Chinese tendency to maintain direct links between Israeli research companies and institutions, representatives of Israeli bodies had sought clarifications through that middleman as to Beijing's position on the possibility whether Israeli experts would from now on be allowed to enter the PRC on their Israeli passports. So far, Beijing has not responded to the request.

OAU Council of Ministers Continues Discussions

'Appalled' by U.S. UNITA Aid

EA021535 Nairobi KNA in English 1320 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Nairobi Mar 2 — The Organisation of African Unity Council of Ministers has appointed a five-member OAU delegation to visit the United States and express the organisation's dissatisfaction with the U.S. support for rebel leaders in Angola. The delegation will also mobilise public action against the Reagan administration's repealing on the Clark Amendment which allows it to give covert support to Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi.

Announcing this on arrival at the Jomo Kenyataaa Airport this afternoon, the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, said the Council of Ministers was appalled by the American support for rebels. Mr Mwangale noted that the OAU supported liberation movements on the continent and would not compromise with governments which supported action against established governments.

At the same time, the minister revealed that some OAU member-states which had not fully subscribed to the liberation movement's budget had been given until the next summit to pay up. He said many countries owed the OAU account for liberation movements up to fifteen million dollars in arrears but Kenya is fully [committed] to liberation movements.

The minister said the OAU Council of Ministers had approved a budget of 25,305,171 dollars for the year 1986/87. Turning to the activities and running of the organisation secretariat, the minister stated that the Council had sanctioned the freezing of some posts which had remained vacant for a long time. He, however, pointed out that a recommendation of the abolition of 52 posts at the secretariat and closing of the Kampala, Bangui and Accra regional offices was referred to an OAU advisory committee consisting of the secretary general of OAU and all member-states' ambassadors based in Addis Ababa. The OAU has a total of sixteen regional offices currently and the secretary general has recommended a reduction in order to alleviate the organisation's economic hardships.

Reacting to a broadcast by Radio South Africa that Kenya allowed South African planes to overfly and transit through the country, Mr Mwangale reiterated that since independence Kenya was and is still supporting the liberation of the entire continent. He said the announcement was aimed at tarnishing Kenya's name and was not true. We struggled for our independence and seriously support liberation movements through material and financial assistance.

The Council of Ministers conference is scheduled to end next Wednesday. Mr Mwangale was accompanied to the meeting by the permanent secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Bethuel Kiplagat, and the head of the African Division in the Ministry, Mr Omar Fakih.

Further on U.S. Policy

NC011947 Paris AFP in English 1935 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, March 1 (AFP) — Ministers from the 50 member-states in the OAU have unanimously denounced U.S. policy toward South Africa and Angola and hope to send a delegation to Washington to present their position on the issues, an OAU spokesman said Saturday.

The ministers, meeting in plenary session Friday and Saturday, particularly criticized the decision last August by the U.S. Congress to repeal the so-called Clark Amendment prohibiting aid to anti-government rebels in Angola.

The spokesman said OAU Secretary-General Ide Oumarou was presenting a report to the closed-door ministerial conference concerning the change in U.S. policy toward Angola and criticising Washington's policy of "constructive engagement" to the white minority government in South Africa.

The policy calls for diplomatic pressure designed to bring about reforms in South Africa's apartheid system of racial segregation while rejecting calls for an economic boycott against Pretoria, although President Ronald Reagan has agreed to impose limited sanctions on South Africa.

While the report does not call for concrete measures to be taken to force Washington's hand on the boycott issue, it recommends a boycott of West German and British products as punishment for the two governments' refusal to enact even limited economic sanctions.

ANC, SWAPO Activities Supported

AB011530 Dakar PANA in English 1135 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 1 March (PANA) — The OAU Council of Ministers this morning continued debate on the report of the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa with renewed appeals to member-states to settle their arrears to the special fund.

The Liberation Committee's report noted that 18 member-states were currently without arrears of contribution while 32 states and Morocco owed the total sum of 14,286,679 U.S. dollars to the Liberation Committee as of 28 Jan. this year.

The Committee's current budget stands at 3.3 million dollars.

The report said that there had been a slight improvement on clearance of contributions to the special fund and a total of over 1 million dollars had been received out of arrears. The report recalled that following his visit to the Frontline and neighboring states the current chairman of the OAU, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, had appealed to all OAU member-states to pay up their contributions and arrears to the special fund.

On Namibia, the report called on the Reagan administration to respect international public opinion and allow the unconditional implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 which remains the basis for a peaceful solution of the Namibian problem. The need for increased material and financial assistance to the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) was underscored, as armed struggle remained the only credible alternative. In this connection the international community is urged to increase its material and financial assistance to SWAPO.

All delegations hailed the increased tempo of the resistance in South Africa by the masses following the call by the African National Congress (ANC) to make apartheid unworkable and South Africa ungovernable. There was also commendation for the increased military activities by the Unkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], the military wing of the ANC.

It was stressed that there is still need for increased military activities as that remained the only effective weapon that would bring the Pretoria regime to the negotiating table. There was general recognition that in order to bring about effective prosecution of the armed struggle, member-states needed to do more than what they had hitherto done.

The committee observed that while the opponents of sanctions against South Africa extol the virtues of peaceful change and non-violence, they hastened to apply sanctions where their interests were best served. In this direction, examples of United States' sanctions against Libya, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Poland and the British embargo against Argentina were cited. Paradoxically, the report said, the Pretoria regime itself believed in the efficacy of sanctions — Lesotho being a case in point. Views were strongly expressed that Africa should lead the way to sanctions whatever their circumstances.

French Action in Chad Not Condemned

AB272100 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 1830 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Concerning the Chadian-Libyan crisis, the OAU foreign ministers today refused to condemn the French military intervention in favor of President Hissein Habre as had been requested by Libya. Still at the OAU, the working sessions of the 43d ministerial session of the pan-African organization continued [words indistinct].

Solidarity With Libya Declared

AB021150 Dakar PANA in English 0954 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, 2 March (PANA) — The Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) yesterday agreed to issue a declaration of solidarity with Libya in the continued American plots and challenges against that country.

Dr 'Ali al-Hudayri, head of the Libyan delegation, listed a series of crimes committed against his country by successive U.S. administrations from 1972 up to the latest military manoeuvres and threats. He declared that Libya will not kneel before the American threats and will defend its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity at all costs, whatever the human and material sacrifices are involved.

Dr al-Hudayri expressed gratitude to all African states and the OAU for the solidarity expressed with Libya through various manifestations. He mentioned in particular the support given to the Libyan cause by the Arab League meeting in Fes, Morocco, and by the Afro-Arab cooperation meeting in Damascus, Syria.

The Libyan delegate said that aggressions are not solely confined to Libya and mentioned the Israeli assault on Tunis with United States logistical support and the hijacking of Egyptian and Syrian civilian airlines by Americans. He said that the aggressions perpetrated against Libya and the continuing threats have been sanctioned publicly at the highest level in the U.S. Administration.

Several delegations, including Ethiopia, spoke in support of the Libyan charges against the U.S. administrations, the only exception being Chad.

Ghali on Chadian-Libyan Dispute

NC262306 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1835 GMT 26 Feb 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 26 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has announced that the African Ministerial Council has agreed to allow Korom Hamet, Chad's minister of state, to make a statement on the Chadian issue before the conference completes its work, although the issue will not be subjected to discussion. This allowance was made after intervention by the head of the Egyptian delegation.

The inclusion of the Chadian issue to the agenda of the African foreign ministers' conference has created a difference of opinion over the suitability of having the current council session discuss two additional clauses, Dr Ghali noted, one being submitted by Chad on Libya's interference in its internal affairs and another submitted by Libya on the French military aggression against Chad.

In a statement to MENA, Dr Butrus Ghali said that some of the delegations attending the conference did not believe that the Ministerial Council was qualified to discuss the Chadian issue in view of the fact that Congolese President Sassou-Nguesso is undertaking a mission to achieve national reconciliation among the warring Chadian factions and that a mediation committee on Chad has been established under the chairmanship of Gabon to discuss the border dispute between Libya and Chad.

Other delegations, he added, thought that the council should discuss recent developments in Chad in light of the effect these events have on the security and stability of the African Continent.

The head of the Egyptian delegation intervened in support of the Chadian view that it is impossible for an OAU Ministerial Council to hold a meeting without discussing an important issue like Chad or without listening to the views of a representative of the legitimate government led by Hissein Habre, Ghali explained. The conference participants agreed with this argument.

Management 'Deficiencies' Revealed

LD011736 Algiers APS in English 1118 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Addis-Ababa, 01/03/86 (APS) — The Algerian delegation at the 43rd O.A.U. ministerial session intervened in the debates on administrative and financial questions of the organization. Referring to a report of the consultative committee, the Algerian delegation revealed a number of deficiencies in the financial and administrative management of the organization. The Algerian delegation considered that O.A.U. must be managed in a more efficient way in order to take into account the situation prevailing in the African Continent which is hit by the economic crisis. It also stressed the necessity of reinforcing the various monitoring organs within O.A.U. and expressed the hope that the consultative committee meets as often as possible in order to regularly examine the financial and administrative situation of O.A.U.

In this respect, the Algerian delegation proposed the creation of a particular secretariat of the consultative committee which will constitute a necessary permament cell for the follow up of its recommendations. It also proposed that the consultative committee will, in addition to its report to the Council of Ministers, submit to the latter a draft resolution on financial and administrative questions. The Algerian delegation made such remarks in order to call for a greater discipline in the management of the organization. The intervention of the Algerian delegation was greatly appreciated. Many delegations underlined the serenity of this intervention which shows Algeria's attachment in O.A.U. in the benefit of African countries and peoples.

Role of Liberation Committee Discussed

AB011505 Dakar PANA in English 1415 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, 1 March (PANA) — The OAU Council of Ministers today made an urgent appeal to those member-states who have not yet done so to pay their contributions to the Special Fund for the Liberation of Africa so as to enable freedom fighters to have weapons, ammunition and logistical they need. [sentence as received]

The council made the appeal while debating the report of the 45th ordinary session of the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa. The council took note of the report.

Only 18 member-states are currently without arrears of contributions. They are Algeria, Angola, Benin, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Several delegations underscored that the success of the struggle of the liberation movements depends on the supply of weapons, ammunition and logistical means. They stressed the need to find ways and means to counter the barbaric acts of repression against the black people in southern Africa and condemned the system of apartheid and its allies in particular the Reagan administration which had agreed to materially and financially help the UNITA rebels to destabilise Angola, a sovereign member-state of the OAU.

There was general criticism of the U.S. Administration's support for UNITA when the plenary debated the implications of the repeal of the Clark Amendment along with the Liberation Committee. The white minority regime in Pretoria and its allies came under strong attacks.

At the end of the debate a consensus emerged that a 5-member OAU delegation should go to the United States to explain the feelings of Africans in order to mobilise public opinion against the U.S. Administration's policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa and its support.

The council recommended that the contacts established by the current OAU chairman, President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, and OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou with pro-African Americans should be pursued so as to get the assistance granted to Savimbi suspended and to work for the repeal of the Clark Amendment, as well as the implementation of the U.S. Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978 on Namibia's independence.

The council recommended that the international conference on sanctions against racist South Africa to take place in Paris next June should be carefully prepared so as to isolate South Africa to bring about the total elimination of apartheid.

The council also recommended that the United States Government must be approached by the current OAU chairman for it to pronounce itself clearly and unequivocally against future military or paramilitary support for the destabilising forces in Angola, that is to say South Africa and its puppets in UNITA. The council said that the OAU cannot accept the proviso which reads that: "Any assistance for military or paramilitary operations in Angola should be considered in the context of the prospects for the achievement of an internationally recognized independence settlement in Namibia in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 435, and its effect on the U.S. political, economic and strategic interests in Africa."

Agriculture Issue Discussed

AB011536 Dakar PANA in English 1441 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 1 March (PANA) — The permanent steering committee of the Organisation of African Unity today discussed the special programme of action for improvement of agriculture in Africa.

Introducing the item, Mr Paul Etiang, OAU assistant secretary gneral in charge of economic matters, said that Africa's priority programme contained two leading issues, namely food and agriculture and the external debt. He added that the document on food and agriculture submitted by the OAU General Secretariat contained important proposals for possible inclusion in the paper presented to the special United Nations General Assembly session in May on the critical situation in Africa.

The steering earlier approved its draft rules of procedure. [sentence as received]

The committee, appointed by the 21st OAU summit, is composed of the ministers for foreign affairs or any other ministers appointed by the respective governments of the members of the outgoing and incumbent bureau of the assembly of heads of state and government of the OAU. It is answerable to the Assembly and to the Council of Ministers.

Its main functions are to follow up the decisions of the 21st OAU summit on economic issues and monitoring the implementation of the declaration and resolutions of the 21st OAU summit on the critical economic situation in Africa. Other functions include the priority programmes for the economic recovery of the continent, considering any other matters that may be referred to it by the current chairman or by the Council of Ministers, coordinating the positions of member-states in anticipation of major international negotiations and formulating practical modalities at all levels before all sessions of the Council of Ministers and submitting them as recommendations to such sessions.

The committee shall meet at least twice a year before each session of the Council of Ministers. All meetings of the committee shall be held in private, unless otherwise decided by a simple majority. The chairman of the committee shall be the representative of the country whose president is current chairman of the OAU. The steering committee continues its work behind closed doors.

UN FAO Reports on African Food Shortage

AB021754 Paris AFP in English 1725 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Rome, March 2 (AFP) — Despite bumper harvests in Africa last year, six African countries in 1986 will have problems feeding their populations, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation [FAO] said on Sunday.

In its first special report this year on the situation in Africa the FAO named the six as Angola, Botswana, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Sudan. It said they would need 2.4 million tonnes for food aid, 900,000 tonnes of it as a matter of urgency.

The FAO put the total food aid needs of the 45 countries south of the Sahara at 3.3 million tonnes, half that of last year. A further 5.3 million tonnes would be imported on a commercial basis, it said. This was despite a generally excellent harvest in 1985, which was a record 54.3 million tonnes, 14.2 million more than in 1984 and 23 per cent up on the average of the last five years, the FAO said.

Several countries recorded exceptional surpluses of secondary grains, particularly maize and millet, the report added. In Benin, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Sudan, Togo and Zimbabwe 2.7 million tonnes of these crops were available immediately, 600,000 tonnes more than the total grain deficit of the countries worst hit by drought. The FAO called on donor countries to help by funding the purchase of food in areas of surplus in Africa and their transport to areas of need.

The report spotlighted the case of Sudan, which [words indistinct] harvest of 4.6 million tonnes in 1985 and a surplus of 520,000 tonnes. Yet it did not have the financial and logistic resources to distribute the food to areas like Darfur and Kordofan, where 60 per cent of the country's 5.1 million refugees from neighbouring states are living.

Similarly, Senegal has 100,000 tonnes of grain available, Mali, Burkina Faso 40,000 tonnes each, Niger 35,000 tonnes and Chad 30,000 tonnes, the FAO said.

In Ethiopia the government estimates that 6.5 million people are still short of food and has put their needs in outside aid for this year at 1.08 million tonnes. According to the FAO, last year's harvest totalled 5.5 million tonnes, down 12 per cent or 850,000 tonnes on a normal year's yield.

Prospects for the 1986 harvest are variable, the report says. In most of southern Africa the rains were late but good in January and February, and the harvest should be normal if they continue, but Angola and Mozambique will be hit by the affects of civil war and Botswana by a sixth successive year of drought.

In Central and East Africa, where the main crop has already been planted, weather conditions are normal and yields should be the same, the FAO says. In the rest of the continent no predictions can be made for several months.

The FAO stressed that aid promised by donor countries was still 600,000 tonnes below estimated needs. It called for deliveries to southern Africa to be speeded up to tide countries to the next harvest.

In the East and the Sahel countries of West Africa donors should put off their deliveries until later in the year in order not to disrupt local trading patterns, the FAO said.

ALGERIA

Further on Messaadia's Activities in Moscow

LD282100 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and official in charge of the permanent Secretariat, this afternoon returned to Algiers from Moscow, where he led the Algerian Party delegation to the proceedings of the 27th CPSU Congress. At the congress he delivered a speech in which he praised the Algerian-Soviet relations of cooperation and friendship, stressing Algeria's firm stands on all issues of liberation, peace, and justice in the world.

Brother Messaadia's stay was marked by a series of meetings with a number of Soviet officials and dealt with issues of common interest, bilateral cooperation, and the scope for development in the long and short terms. The official in charge of the permanent secretariat gave an interview on Soviet television in which he discussed issues that concern the FLN and the CPSU. He expressed his satisfaction at representing Algeria's political leadership, led by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN, at the 27th CPSU Congress proceedings. He also remarked about his impression of the proceedings of the congress and the strategy outlined in the political report of the CPSU Central Committee presented by the secretary general, Mikhail Gorbachev. Brother Messaadia analayzed the current world situation and the means available to facilitate the search for solutions to the more pressing problems, particularly issues of national liberation and peoples' struggle for independence and self-determination, as well as the struggle for consolidating political, economic and cultural independence in confronting colonialist and imperialist ambitions.

Meeting With Castro

LD282059 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] In Moscow, where he is heading the National Liberation Front delegation at the 27th CPSU Congress, Mohamed Cherif Messaadia received several prominent figures from the Arab world and the nonaligned group while the congress was going on. The representative of the permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee was received by Cuban President Fidel Castro, with whom he discussed the impact of the world economic crisis on developing countries.

Yesterday morning Mohamed Messaadia was a guest of Soviet television. In a televised speech, the representative of the permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee analyzed the world situation and the ways and means likely to facilitate the search for solutions to the most worrying issues, in particular, the national liberation causes and the people's struggle for their right to self-determination, as well as the fight to consolidate economic and cultural independence wherever this is threatened by neocolonialist and imperialist designs.

Mr Messaadia returned to Algiers this afternoon.

Return to Algiers

LD011631 Algiers APS in English
1000 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 01/03/86 (APS) — The head of the F.L.N Party C.C. Permanent Secretariat Mohamed Cherif Messaadia was back in Algiers Friday coming from Moscow where he headed the Algerian delegation in the 27th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party. Messaadia was greeted by members of the C.C. permanent secretariat.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi on Proclamation of 'People's Power'

LD021551 Tripoli JANA in English
1444 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Bengazi, Jumada Atheni 20, Mar 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution, Col Al-Qadhdhafi, has stressed at the General People's Congress today that this day, namely the proclamation of people's power, is a historic and great one of 2nd. March 1977 A.D.

He adds that we might not evaluate this historic day because we have lived the establishment of Al-Jamahiriyah that might not be evaluated by the world around us, for it is an official world. It is a world of governments even what is called the United Nations is in actual fact far from being so. Rather, it represents official delegations assembling in that seat, but the people's delegations that assembled on the Libyan soil passed resolutions quite contradictory with those of most official delegations.

He points out that the peoples have passed resolutions on the Libyan soil which are quite different from the resolutions that have been passed by delegates at the United Nations, so much so that this indicates that these delegates represent governments, whilst these assembled on the Libyan soil at the people's congresses represent the masses — the peoples.

He, further, says that the world in which we live is an official one that doesn't recognise this. It even fights Al-Jamahiriyah, but this day is recorded in history as a great one even though it is created by a small people on a backward and poor soil.

He stresses that this day is epoch-making in the annals of mankind, pointing out that the proclamation of the people's congresses, people's committees and the proclamation of people's power mean a historic, remarkable and creative action that is matchless historically. It is going to be one of the most important events in the history of mankind in days to come.

He emphasises that when Rousseau, the Frnech philospher, died only two of his friends were at his funeral, but after the passage of tens of year millions started celebrating on the anniversary of his departure, having become assured of the value of his great thoughts to humanity.

The leader of the revolution continues to say that this day on which we assemble is historic. It is the day of the proclamation of Al-Jamahiriyah. We cannot visualise it in days to come owing to the fact that we are overwhelmed by this great event, but the oncoming generations will visualise it, being an epoch-making and a new page recorded by man in his long history for emancipation.

Al-Qadhdhafi on 'Sovereignty, Genuine Independence'

LD021556 Tripoli JANA in English
1452 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Baydan Ala-awwal, Jumada Athani 20, Mar 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi asserted that genuine independence means total freedom from all forms of oppression and exploitation.

In his speech before the General People's Congress today the leader made clear that sovereignty does not mean the disappearance of foreign occupier to be replaced by an internal oppressor who performs the same acts of repression. For instance there is no difference between the English bullets and the bullets used at present against popular masses in the streets of the Egyptian capital.

He said the taking of power by the popular masses in Libya is a serious qualitative leap that represented further dimensions on the international scene related fundamentally to liberation of this part of the Arab homeland.

He pointed out that Libya until 1969 was controlled by the American and English forces whilst the frontiers of Libyan sovereignty were unknown and lacking.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses General People's Congress

LD021551 Tripoli JANA in English 1434 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Bayan al-Awwal, 20, Jumada Athani, 2, Mar JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution this afternoon attended the final meeting of the General People's Congress 9th ordinary session at Qaryunis University in Banghazi.

As soon as the leader of the revolution arrived in the meeting hall revolutionary chanting overwhelmed the atmosphere reaffirming their pepetual cohesion with the leader, theoretician, thinker and teacher Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and their commitment to people's power and its consolidation and to propagate the pioneering thinking of the great Al-Fatih revolution, thinking of the green book, their determination to continue challenging hostile provocations by American imperialism and Zionism and their constant readiess to die in defence of the civilised achievements realised by our people on the soil of the first Jamahiryah in history.

At the climax of the festivities celebrating the 9th anniversary of the proclamation of people's power and birth the leader of the revolution addressed the General People's Congress. He asserted, at the beginning of his speech, the significance of this historical event, which is considered one of the most fundamental turning points in history of mankind in their march towards final freedom from all forms of oppression, tyranny and slavery. He pointed out that the great victory of freedom and people's democracy on the Libyah Arab soil is a great achievement for which lives and blood would be sacrificed in many parts of the world.

JANA Cites Al-Qadhdhafi on Reason for U.S. 'Anger'

LD030955 Tripoli JANA in English 0900 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Bayan al-Awal, March 3 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared that America is angry with Libya because there is no country in the world that celebrates the eviction of American bases except Libya and Vietnam. But there are countries that did not have any American military presence that became now a scene for the American forces. [sentence as received] He cited the example of Egypt, which became an American base after it was free during the rule of late leader Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir.

Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi added in his speech before the General People's Congress today that the greatness realised by the Libyan Arab people and its expulsion of the biggest colonial power in the world from its land provoked American vengeance and increased its hatred towards the Libyan Arab people.

He made clear that the Libyan people have liberated itself from the influence of American bases and began spreading its sovereignty over all its lands and territorial waters, which is of course displeasing American.

Al-Turayki Sends Message to Security Council on Chad

LD020249 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0015 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has stressed that the continuous French intervention in the Chad's affairs might hinder all efforts being exerted by the OAU in order to achieve national conciliation in Chad and represents a dangerous threat to peace and security in Africa.

The brother secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau has pointed out in a message to the chairman of the UN Security Council that the Chadian problem is, ipso facto, an African problem and, therefore, the solution should be an African one, with an African will, and under the OAU auspices. The military intervention by a state like France will not help the resolving of a problem within this framework.

The message pointed out that what is happening in Chad is a domestic struggle between various factions and that the civil war has been continuing in Chad for more than 20 years. The message also pointed out that what has contributed to the continuing instability and has hindred reaching national conciliation among the Chadian factions is the mutiny by one of the factions, namely the army of the north, led by Hissein Habre, and the French intervention.

The message stressed that responsibility for the dangerous deterioration in the internal situation in Chad is the mutineer Habre's. He fabricated the latest events in order to find justifications for calling upon the French forces to intervene anew in Chad. Such intervention aims at hurting the legitimate GUNT [National Unity Transition Government] government led by Goukouni Oueddei and which controls most of Chad. The message also pointed out the dangerous French intervention, exemplified by the raid on the civilian airport used for receiving relief aid and medicine to the victims of famine in Chad, together with France's dispatch of its forces and aircraft to consolidate the mutineer Habre in a scheme aimed at destroying the legitimate government.

The message has also stated that the Jamahiriyah had nothing to do with those events, stressing that the Jamahiriyah is prepared to take part in any efforts to be exerted for (achieving) national conciliation by the OAU and African states.

Further on Message

LD021606 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli. Jumada Athani 20, Mar. 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau made clear that the continued French interference in Chadian affairs would only hinder all efforts being made by the OAU towards national reconciliation and represents a serious threat to international peace and security in Africa.

In a letter to the president of the Security Council, the secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau stressed that the issue is of African nature and its resolution should be fulfilled by African will and under the sponsorship of the OAU. Intervention by a country like France, therefore, does not help solving the problem within this framework.

JANA Challenges Mitterrand

LD011528 Tripoli JANA in English 1416 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Paris. Jumada Athani 19, Mar 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — *JEUNE AFRIQUE* magazine yesterday reported that President Mitterrand of France made a pledge to African presidents that he would 'attack main airports in the south' if parallel 16 in Chad was crossed. The political editor of JANA commented on that, saying let the world hear the old colonialism's logic of interference in the interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

What right has Mitterrand to draw an imaginary line and appoint himself as a policeman to defend it and prevent Chadians from liberating themselves against the American-French backed puppet gangs of mutinous Habre? How can Mitterrand allow himself to make pledge threatening an independent sovereign country — the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Then are these African leaders not ashamed of themselves appearing as puppets to their French master?

The editor said 'The will of the people, the firmness and determination of the great al-Fatah revolution and its capability we believe, Mr Mitterrand cannot ignore. [no closing quotation mark received]

Shultz Meeting With Chadian Counterpart Noted

LD021017 Tripoli JANA in English 1633 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Washington, Jumada Athani 19, Mar 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A spokesman for the American Department of State declared that George Shultz yesterday met with the foreign minister of the French and American agent mutinous Habre and that the sides discussed the various aspects of American military assistance to mutinous gangs in Ndjanema.

The spokesman said America rushed the dispatch of military assistance to Chad, including anti-aircraft weapons and other arms and ammunition. However, the spokesman did not give any details as to the size of weapons already arrived in Ndjamena but asserted that Washington will do whatever [words indistinct] to help Ndjamena gangs.

General People's Committee's Term Ends

LD021523 Tripoli JANA in English
1422 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Al-Baydan al-Awal Jumada Athani 20, Mar 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — the General People's Congress held its evening session at 5:30 p.m. at the inaugural session the secretary of the General People's Congress pointed out that the Basic People's Congresses requested the General People's Congresses requested the General People's Congress at its session to set up a commission of inquiry for putting questions to the General People's Committee.

Accordingly a commission was set up for this purpose and the results of its inquiry to the last Basic People's Congresses that took their decision thereto [sentence as received]

The secretary of the General People's Congress said that the term of the General People's Committee ended and that the committee and its members, although mistakes were made, did their best for the revolution and revolutionary achievements realised by the Libyan Arab people. Certainly, genuine intentions for honorable revolutionary work in favor of Jamahiriyah and the consolidation of people's power were there.

He added that there are revolutionary directives for the consolidation of powers of municipality people's committees as a step towards the disappearance of the General People's Committee to make way for municipality General People's Committees. He said it is only logical that after the assertion and consolidation of people's power, powers of central authorities should shrink. This is the masses power that we hope to be consolidated daily.'

The secretary of the General People's Congress pointed out that there are secretariats which developments in their sectors gave them capabilities of an institution rather than secretariat whose only role became no more than collection of statistics and data.

For example, when the Basic People's Congresses decided to set up an electricity company and performed its running responsibilities the secretariat became without any central role. Consequently, as an institution it requires a secretary.

The secretary of the General People's Congress made clear that there are other secretariats, such as that of agricultural reform and land reclamation, social security, masses sports, services housing and justice. Their roles could be fulfilled efficiently by municipalities and there is no justification for them having a central organ.

After a short break, the secretary of the General People's Congress read out the report of the commission of inquiry. Then observations and comments of the Basic People's Congresses on the report were read out.

The members of the General People's Congress made their comments on the General People's Committee whose term ended. The meeting ended at 10.p.m.

New Libyan Cabinet Reportedly To Be Formed 'Soon'

GF010718 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0655 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 1 Mar (WAM) — Quoting Libyan diplomatic sources in Rabat, the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* reports today that a new Libyan Government will be formed soon. The government's primary mission will be the initiation of a Libyan dialogue with a number of Arab countries whose relations with Libya are strained.

AL-ITTIHAD adds that one of the most prominent people tipped to be prime minister in the new Libyan Cabinet is Muhammad Abu al-Qasim al-Zuwi, the resident minister in Morocco, who is supervising the Afro-Arab union.

U.S. Aircraft Carriers Move Toward Libyan Coast

LD011030 Tripoli JANA in English 0910 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Brussels, Jumada Athani 19, Feb 29, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — *LA DERNIERE HEURE* Belgian daily reported yesterday that the U.S. (?aircraft carriers) *Saratoga* and *Coral Sea* headed on Wednesday towards the Libyan coasts. The newspaper quoted U.S. war ministry's sources saying that it is possible that the two U.S. aircraft carriers will stage new maneuvres opposite the Libyan coasts.

SUDAN

'Source' Says 'Ethnic Plot' Participants To Be Tried

JN021822 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March (SUNA) — Nine civilians and 220 military men who participated in the last so-called ethnic plot will stand trial, an official source in the investigation committee announced here today. The 8 out of 9 civilians from police, central reserve police are considered civilians in conformity with their institutions' laws, the source elaborated.

The plotters are accused of instigation, undermining the Constitution and the sovereignty of the country beside occupation of public utilities.

The source has declined to explain the status of the court that would try the defendants.

The so-called ethnic plot took place last Sept 27.

Defense Minister Denies Presence of U.S. AWACS

JN021052 Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 2 (SUNA) — Transitional Military Council member and Defense Minister Maj Gen 'Uthman 'Abdallah denied any presence of Air Warning and Advanced Control System AWACS plane in the Sudan's airports of Airdomains.

Indicating that there is no United States military presence in the country, 'Abdallah described as baseless reports in this regard broadcasted recently by the French Broadcasting Station, Europe 1.

On the other hand the minister denied his knowledge about Sudanese mediation in order to solve the Chadian civil war which had been renewed recently, explaining that Sudan has expressed regret over the Chadian conflict. The defense minister added that Sudan called for the Chadians to resort to dialogue to solve their country's problems.

National Alliance, Garang Reach Agreement

JN021040 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1012 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Mar (SUNA) — Representatives from the National Alliance for the Salvation of the Homeland and Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA], have reached complete agreement in Addis Ababa on urgent national issues, foremost of which is the convocation of a national conference. This was achieved following arduous meetings and discussions which began in August last year. *AL-SAHAFAH* newspaper which published the report said that the provisions of the agreement will be broadcast by both the SPLA radio and Omdurman radio at 1500 on Monday afternoon, Sudan time. The National Alliance will hold an emergency meeting this evening to hear the report of the delegation which returned from Addis Ababa and will also discuss the agreement. It is to be noted that the delegation which met with Garang returned to Khartoum on Thursday.

In an another development, *AL-SAHAFAH* said that the preliminary dialogue between the National Alliance leaders and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] leaders will begin in the Ethiopian capital on 15 March to fix the date for the constitutional conference and to specify the topics that will be discussed. *AL-SAHAFAH* said that the dialogue will be held at a senior level. Col John Garang will lead the SPLM side and the president of the current session will lead the National Alliance delegation alongside representatives from the parties and trade unions in the alliance.

TUNISIA

Delegate to CPSU Congress Returns From Moscow

LD021942 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 01 Mar 86

[Text] Hedi Bakkush has returned from Moscow where he represented Tunisia at the 27th CPSU Congress. It is to be recalled that Bakkush held talks in Moscow with Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and the official in charge of the FLN permanent secretariat, which focused on the Tunisian-Algerian cooperation. Both sides have expressed their satisfaction at the course of cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

W. SAHARA

SDAR President Addresses Anniversary Parade

LD281116 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] A huge military parade was staged today in the liberated Sharan territories in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the formation of the SADR [sdar]. The parade was presided over by President Muhammad 'Abd al-Aziz, president of the Republic and secretary general of the Polisario, in the presence of delegations representing 63 countries that have recognized the SDAR, including an Algerian delegation led by brother Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and minister of state for the presidency, in addition to scores of delegations representing the political parties and friendship organizations from various parts of the world. Pressmen also covered this prominent event in the march of the struggle of the fraternal Saharan people.

President Muhammad 'Abd al-Aziz delivered an important speech in which he reviewed the positive stages through which the Saharan peoples have passed during the past 10 years, stressing in this connection that during this period the SDAR has succeeded in imposing its existence as an established fact, which cannot be overlooked locally, regionally or internationally.

After having reviewed the splendid successes achieved by the Saharan people on the level of the armed struggle, and the steps made in the field of establishing their national institution despite the ferocious war being waged against them by the Moroccan regime, he addressed an appeal to the current OAU chairman and its secretary general, and the UN secretary general urging them to work for the enforcement of the peace plan.

He also called on the international community to exercise pressure on the Moroccan regime to compel it to implement the just and durable peace plan endorsed by the OAU and adopted by the UN General Assembly.

Polisario Leader's Hold Press Conference

LD020952 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Mohamed Abdelaziz, the general secretary of the Polisario Front, held a news conference yesterday evening, part of which he devoted to the prevailing military situation in the Western Sahara. He excluded the possibility of a military solution to the Western Sahara's conflict in particular. Once again he emphasized that the Polisario Front will continue its military activity toward the ultimate political solution to the conflict. On this occasion Mr Abdelaziz appealed to the international community to bring pressure to bear on Morocco to induce it toward negotiation. The Saharan official denounced the French stance, which contravenes this endeavor. He stressed that France provides Morocco with about 50 percent of its military hardware.

SDAR President Holds News Conference

LD021353 Algiers APS in English 1136 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] SADR, 2/86 (APS) — Our experience with Mauritania and the past experiences of the peoples struggling over the world bear out our belief that a solution will be reached unavoidably on the negotiation table, Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and secretary general of the Polisario Front said in a news conference here yesterday in El Ayoun.

This three-hour press conference attended by a large number of foreign journalists crowned the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the SDAR.

Questions were on essential topics like the OAU-UN peace plan, the military situation, the stand of certain countries on the issue and the relations of the Saharan state with other countries of the world.

Mr Abdelaziz recalled first that OAU Resolution 104 endorsed by the UN and the non-aligned countries is a peace plan that calls on the warring sides, Morocco and the Polisario Front to cease fire and start up peace negotiations.

The Moroccan regime paid no heed to the call and refuses stubborn [as received] a just and honourable peace for both sides. In the absence of a negotiated solution, the Saharan people pursue their armed struggle, president Abdelaziz. [sentence as received]

Asked on the future prospects of the Saharan state after accession to total independence, president Abdelaziz indicated that the SDAR will carry on its present policy of non-alignment and reconstruction of what has been destroyed by the aggressor. The SDAR will work toward peace coexistence and cooperation in the region and in the world.

On the U.S. stand, President Abdelaziz said that this country has a heavy responsibility in the safeguard of peace in the world. It is their duty to labor for the right of peoples to self-determination.

The United States has a responsibility in the Saharan issue because of the privileged relations with the Moroccan king who uses the military and material aid it lavishes on him against the Saharan people. President Abdelaziz said that there is some reason for hope as to the position of the U.S. which has slightly shifted.

On the stance of France the Saharan head of state declared: Had France socialist government used the possibilities it possesses to further [the] cause of peace in the region, the situation would have been more positive. Such an action would have also served France relations with Africa he added.

On the military level, the SDAR president indicated that 50 percent of Moroccan weaponry is French made. He pointed out that the stand taken by France in international instances on the issue emboldened the Moroccan regime. France is in this respect irrelevant to OAU and UN decisions.

President Abdelaziz noted the positive stand taken by Spain in the UN though he said there are still some acts which do not tally with right and duty.

On the recent call to combine efforts for peace and cooperation Mr Abdelaziz put forth the Saharan viewpoint that there are two possibilities: either a meeting that will gather the six Maghreb countries and will constitute the starting point for a new era profitable to all the governments and peoples of the region, or a meeting between four nations to which the warring sides will not take part, he said.

SPLA Fighters Launch 'Heavy' Raid at Ler

EA012123 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Units of Tiger and Timsah battalions have launched a heavy and highly successful raid on the positions of Siwar al-Dhahab's forces at Ler, in Central Upper Nile Administrative area.

According to Radio SPLA correspondent attached to Tiger and Timsah, 25 enemy soldiers were killed and 23 others seriously wounded during the operation which took place on February the 27th 1986. The enemy suffered these casualties when an entire building, in which enemy soldiers happened to be at the time, was completely destroyed.

The raid, our correspondent says, lasted for 90 minutes starting from 5 a.m. and ending at 6.30 a.m.

Rumors of Garang's Running for Election Denied

EA282259 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Equatoria — Radio SPLA has learned from informed sources that Equatoria administrative area is now rife with reports that the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] leader, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, is going to stand against Siwar al-Dhahab in the upcoming election.

According to the sources, it is widely believed that the report, which has originated from authorities in Equatoria led by the governor, Major General Peter Cyrillo, is calculated to ensure success of the elections in Equatoria by enticing the largely reluctant and indifferent public into casting their votes. It is worth mentioning that the turnout for registration amongst prospective voters has been markedly low, a fact which local observers say accounts for the report.

The official SPLA-SPLM spokesman has commented by saying that the claims that the SPLA-SPLM leader was taking part in elections were not only totally absurd but amounted to a very poor attempt at misleading the public in order to obtain cheap individual gains.

KENYA

Border Cooperation Communique Signed With Tanzania

EA282249 Nairobi KNA in English 1345 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Nairobi Feb 28 — Kenya and Tanzania today signed a joint communique following a ministerial meeting on border security and cooperation held in Nairobi. The minister of state, Justus Ole Tipis, signed on behalf of Kenya Government while Muhiddin Kimario, minister of home affairs, signed on behalf of the Tanzanian Government. The ministerial meeting held here was a follow up of the discussions held in Dar Es Salaam in September last year.

In the communique the two delegations expressed satisfaction with the continuing efforts of officials of both countries in finding new areas of cooperation and implementation of previous recommendations through regular meetings. It was noted that frequent meetings like the one just ended have facilitated smooth movement across the border, apprehension of criminals and considerable reduction of cattle rustling and poaching.

Finance Minister Meets With Ugandan Counterpart

AB011927 Dakar PANA in English 1557 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Nairobi, 1 March (KNA/PANA) — A high powered Ugandan delegation which has been in Nairobi to meet Kenya's finance minister Professor George Saitoti said they had been able to iron out some of their country's outstanding problems.

The delegation which was led by the Ugandan finance minister Professor Ponsiano Mulema told their Kenyan counterparts last night that Kenya's willingness and readiness to assist Ugandans was a clear demonstration of good-neighbourliness and brotherhood.

In reply, Prof. Saitoti said the Kenya Government was willing to cooperate with the new Ugandan Government adding that the spirit of cooperation was important as Uganda will always be Kenya's neighbour.

The Kenyan minister was accompanied by his assistant minister John Michuki, permanent secretary for commerce and industry David Namu and senior officials in the ministry.

The Ugandan delegation included the director of external debt management office ,Ivan Mulindwa, an official of the National Resistance Movement, the acting Ugandan high commissioner to Kenya and other top Ugandan officials.

UGANDA

Museveni, France's Guy Penne Hold Talks

AB020700 Paris AFP in English 1534 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 1 (AFP) — A senior advisor to France's President Francois Mitterrand met here Saturday [1 March] with President Yoweri Museveni, whose National Resistance Army came to power in Uganda five weeks ago. Details of discussions between Mr Museveni and other Ugandan officials and Guy Penne, Mr Mitterrand's top expert on African affairs, were not immediately available and both the Ugandan government and the French Embassy refused to comment on the visit.

Mr Penne arrived here early Saturday and his visit was not mentioned by Uganda's official media until after he left the country following his meeting with Mr Museveni.

France's ambassador to Uganda, Butin Jacques, said the embassy would comment on the visit on Monday. But analysts here said the talks were expected to result in the resumption of French aid to Uganda. French aid to the country was suspended in 1982 in protest against human rights violations under the since-deposed government of President Milton Obote. The aid was resumed briefly in 1983, only to be suspended the following year after further evidence of human rights abuses. It was not restored last year, despite the overthrow of Mr Obote by his own military.

France Ready To Resume Aid

AB021022 Paris AFP in English 0947 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 2 (AFP) — The French Government has said it was prepared to resume aid to Uganda under the new government of President Yoweri Museveni, Uganda radio said Sunday. The radio said that French presidential advisor on African affairs, Guy Penne, who made a one-day visit to Uganda on Saturday [1 March] told President Museveni that France was ready to offer assistance to Uganda once it had examined the country's needs.

The French Government suspended its aid programme for Uganda in 1982 and again in 1984 and 1985 due to alleged human rights violations under President Milton Obote and under the regime of General Tito Okello, who toppled Mr Obote in July and ruled until being ousted in turn by Mr Museveni in January.

President Museveni also asked the French foreign debts, which he said cost Uganda some 200 million dollars in annual servicing and repayments.

Mr Museveni also said his government urgently needed 180 million dollars to rehabilitate the war-damaged "Luwero triangle" region near the capital and the West Nile Province in northern Uganda.

Museveni Appoints Four More Ministers to Cabinet

AB020922 Paris AFP in English 0916 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 2 (AFP) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has appointed four more ministers and five deputy ministers to his cabinet, the state radio reported.

Sebaana Kizito, a former member of parliament for the opposition Democratic Party under the deposed regime of Milton Obote, has been named minister for regional cooperation, the radio said.

It said E. Kakonge was appointed minister for local government, John Ntimba was named minister of state for education, and Balaki Kirya was made minister of state attached to the presidency.

The five new deputy ministers included Robert Ekinu in the Ministry of Finance, Yafesi Sabiiti, another former Democratic Party MP who is deputy minister for energy, and Maumbe Mukuna in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Gertrude Njuba has been named deputy minister for rehabilitation and Zachary Olum, who is the national organizing secretary of the Democratic Party, was made deputy minister for housing and urban development, the radio said late Saturday [1 March].

It added that President Museveni had ordered a freeze in new appointments in parastatal organizations and at Makerere University until completion of a review of all available vacancies.

Mr Museveni has been disappointed that some people had taken advantage of the transition period following his coming to power in January to make politically motivated appointments in the parastatal sector, the radio said.

Army Prepares for Battle in Northern Town

EA281425 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English
28 Feb 86 p 40

[Standard correspondent report: "Toko vows Fight to Bitter end"]

[Text] Kampala, 27 Feb — the former minister of defence in the defunct military council government, Brigadier Gad Wilson Tokyo, has vowed he will fight to the last man if the National Resistance Army (NRA) advances to Northern Uganda.

Travellers reaching Kampala from Lira yesterday morning said Brig Toko has placed not less than 10,000 soldiers, including militiamen, in the northern Uganda town of Gulu to await the arrival of the NRA.

Said to be second in command to Lieutenant General Basilio Olara Okello, who is said to be in Kitgum, the next town after Gulu, Brig Tokyo, who once led the military council delegation to last year's Nairobi peace talks, is said to hae placed several heavy weapons in almost every place in Gulu and is telling residents there to fight for their lives.

The travellers who reached Kampala through Soroti said Basilio and Toko had been training an unknown number of northerners since they were driven out of Kampala by the NRA last month.

Every able-bodies man and woman in Gulu is said to have been armed by Toko, and those too old to handle guns are being taught how to pass over ammunition to those fighting or how to load guns. For those too old to do anything Toko has told them to leave Gulu and hide themselves in the bush.

It was also reported that for the last two weeks Toko's soldiers have been hunting down any Ugandans who originate from the Baganda tribe and also those from western Uganda.

Civil servants and businessmen, working both in Gulu and Kitgum, have been on the run since Kampala fell last month and many are feared to have been killed by the angry Basilio and Toko forces. However, one of the businessmen who fled from Lira yesterday said some sympathetic Langi tribesmen had been hiding quite a number of the Baganda and Banyankole from the wrath of the Basilio soldiers.

Museveni Interviewed on Country's Future

EA021832 Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English
2 Mar 86 p 5

[Interview with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni at the State House in Entebbe by *SUNDAY NATION* reporter Chris Musyoka, headlined "Uganda's Future Secure Says Museveni" — date not given]

[Excerpt][Question] What is the current situation or relationship between your government and the other fighting groups?

[Answer] We have accommodated the groups which have given up. For instance (Dr Andrew) Kayiira (leader of Fedemu [federal Democratic Movement of Uganda) is with us and so are the Fedemu chaps. Even some of the west Nile groups, people like Emilio Omondo are with us. Most of those who are not with us are not hostile. The only group which has been hostile has been Basilio's (Olara Okello, former chief of defence forces) group. But even that is divided within itself. As for their fate after the war, the irresponsible officers will be tried but the ordinary soldiers will be released or reeducated.

[Question] What role do you think neighbouring countries such as Kenya and Tanzania can play in the rehabilitation of the army?

[Answer] Well, our army does not really need rehabilitation since it is organised and self-contained but we will need to consult military teams from neighbouring countries in some areas in forming a regular army which is different from the army we have been having. So we will have to undertake comparative studies in which case the teams from Kenya and Tanzania which will be here will be sort of consultative.

The military teams can also play a role in training our people in specialised courses. But as far as the general training and organisation of the army is concerned, we have enough experience. But we will be consulting the teams in specialised areas and take the soldiers for courses, such as in tanks, air force and in the navy on Lake Victoria

[Question] In political terms, Mr President, you started by coopting other political groups. Did they join in with certain conditions either from you or from themselves and is the process over of coopting other parties into the government?

[Answer] There were no conditions. They did not give us any conditions and we did not give them any except that they should support the unity programmes and forget about the partisan programmes for the time being. As for coopting other members, there are still some appointments to be made, so the process is not over.

[Question] Does that include one party that has been making some noise in Nairobi called Uganda National Liberation Front (anti-dictatorship) which has called for immediate return to democratic civilian rule if militarism in Uganda is to end?

[Answer] That group is confused and has been sabotaging the liberation struggle of Uganda for many years. Many of them worked for Amin until Amin threw them out and instead of behaving themselves and admitting their mistakes, they are still trying to cover up their mistakes of working with Amin and the way of covering up their mistakes has been to attack us.

[question] what will be the precise role of the political parties in the interim government?

[Answer] They should lie dormant until their time comes.

[Question] what will be the role of the village committees and will the political parties be free to mobilise the people through the committees?

[Answer] No. No. No. These will be non-partisan committees for everybody and not for parties. The role of the village committees will be that of watchdogs, to watch local authorities so that they are not violating the rights of our people.

[Question] How do you envision the process of a new constitution.

[Answer] First of all, we shall have a constitutional commission which will collect views from the public and write a draft constitution using those views and then submit the draft constitution to a constituent assembly which shall be elected specifically for that purpose, the purpose of enacting the new constitution.

[Question] On the economic front, Mr President, what will be the immediate priorities for rehabilitation of the economy?

[Answer] We will first of all restore the immediate services and later on embark on the medium term programmes of rehabilitation such as roads to uplift the economy.

[Question] you said recently that a rehabilitation programme was on the drawing board to cost 160 million dollars. What is the source of the money?

[Answer] That sum is part of our estimates and as for the sources, we have our own money although Uganda is heavily in debt because of the Obote regime. We now have surplus in our foreign exchange account but quite a lot of money has been squandered in paying these debts. So we will have to solicit for donations and aid grants from some of the advanced countries.

[Question] Can you qualify the debt and which foreign countries have pledged aid?

[Answer] I would rather not say how much we are in debt at the moment. We shall make a full statement on that later. Some countries have promised us assistance. Britain has promised us 5 million [currency not specified]. Others like Italy and Canada have also promised to assist us.

[Question] You used to criticise the international monetary fund for its policies during the days of Obote. What relationship will you forge with the IMF?

[Answer] We can work with anybody on the basis of mutual advantage.

[Question] Have you made any official representations to extradite Obote to stand trial?

[Answer] Not yet.

[Question] Reports say that four heads of state from this region will be visiting Uganda. When is that?

[Answer] Yes, they will be coming for a regional meeting in March. I dont know the date. The meeting was agreed during another one in Goma, Zaire last month.

CHAD

Rally Statement Lists Weaponry Captured From Libya

AB022203 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Statement by Yorangar le Moiban, secretary of state for administrative control, at a rally held in Ndjamena on 2 March during which weapons captured from the enemy were displayed — live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Militants, we present to you this morning the weaponry of the Libyan aggressive invasion army which our Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] captured at Kouba Olanga, at Koro Toro, at Zigey, and at Oum Chalouba Kalait. The three Castarel AML's [light armored vehicles] which we are presenting to you are only a part of what our valiant FANT captured on the field. They are so new that they can be used immediately in the field to confront this horde army. So, we present to you here the AML's which have been sent here for repairs. Thus the entire weaponry which we are going to cite here can be found on the field. Here is the tally:

At Kouba Olanga, our FANT attained the following results: 250 dead on the Libyan side; 308 prisoners of war; 3 Toyotas equipped with DTA [expansion unknown] [words indistinct] were captured there, 6 Toyotas were captured there, 6 Toyotas equipped with 14-5 (?monotype), 6 Toyota's equipped with multiple land-to-land rocket launchers, 8 Jeeps equipped with 106-mm canons, 10 troop-transport Toyotas, 7 Mercedes heavy-duty type 2332's, and 3 RPG-9's were captured; and (1) Mercedes loaded with important cargo and 5 Korean jeeps equipped with 106-mm canons were destroyed.

Our brave FANT also lost 7 men on the battlefield, while 17 were wounded and 1 Jeep equipped with 110-mm canons was destroyed.

At Koro Toro, a garrison situated 40 km north of Kouba Olanga, the FANT inflicted a routing defeat on the Libyan aggression army, and the result follows: 53 dead on the enemy side; 27 wounded; 3 Toyotas equipped with land-to-land [as heard], 4 Toyotas equipped with 14-55's, 5 Toyotas equipped 14-5 monotypes, 7 troop-transport Toyotas, 2 Toyotas equipped with (?12-7), and 3 jeeps equiped with 106-mm canons were captured.

The FANT lost one man on the battlefield and two were wounded.

At Zigey, a garrison situated 300 km northwest of Koro Toro, the FANT rounted the Libyan annexationist troops, who left behind 92 dead and 190 POW's; 2 Toyotas equipped with heavy weaponry, 10 troop-transport Toyotas, 3 heavy-duty Mercedes tankers, 3 mortars, 1 DTA-14-5 captured, 9 RPG's, 23 bazookas, and several hundreds of light weapons were captured.

The FANT lost seven men on the battlefield and seven were wounded.

At Oum Chalouba Kalait, the Libyan invasion army collapsed like a house of cards. It took to flight, leaving on the field 660 dead and 456 POW's; 11 Toyotas equipped with land-to-land [as heard], 9 Jeeps equipped with 106-mm canons, 14 Toyotas equipped with 14-5's 6 heavy-duty Mercedes 2432's, 2 Tankers, 35 troop-transport Toyotas, and 4 Catarel AML's, which we present to you here, were captured.

[Words indistinct] of the fourth AML are in the garage because the it had flat tires. Eight radio-equipped Toyotas were captured. We destroyed five AML's which were on the field, and the journalists who saw it are here, they will bear witness to it. Eighteen vehicles equipped with heavy arms were also destroyed.

This is the result attained by our FANT during the attacks on our garrisons at Kouba Olnaga, Koro Toro, Zigey and Oum Chalouba Kalait. I thank you [applause]

AFP Reports Arrival of French-Chartered Transports

AB281628 Paris AFP in English 1619 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, Feb 28 (AFP) — A Lockheed C-5 Galaxy transport plane, chartered by France from the U.S. Air Force, arrived in the Chadian capital on Friday carrying anti-aircraft missiles to protect the city's airport against attack by Libya or Libyan-backed Chadian rebels, officials said.

Meanwhile reliable sources here said France's "Sparrowhawk" force, sent to Chad early this month after new attacks by the rebels, now numbered 900 troops, most of them engaged in maintaining and flying warplanes based in Ndjamena.

AFP on French Military Presence

AB011911 Paris AFP in English 1641 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, March 1 (AFP) — France has further strengthened its military presence in Chad, placing long-range anti-aircraft missiles around Ndjamena Airport and deploying for the first time radar and troops north of the capital, French military sources said here Saturday.

The sources said 150 French paratroopers had been stationed this week along with radar installations at Moussoro, 250 kilometers (155 miles) northeast of Ndjamena.

The troops, transferred from a French base in neighboring Central African Republic, brought to about 900 the total number of French soldiers deployed in Chad since Libyan-backed rebels launched an offensive on the government of Hissein Habre February 10.

In addition to the installations in Moussoro, the sources said U.S.-made Hawk surface-to-air missiles had been placed by the French military around the Ndjamena Airport.

The missiles, capable of reaching an altitude of 16,000 meters (52,000 feet), would be able to defend against high-altitude bombing strikes similar to the one carried out against the airport on February 17.

France said the attack, which slightly damaged the runway, was carried out by Libya.

Previously the airfield was defended by Crotale missiles with a maximum altitude of 4,000 meters (13,000 feet).

A French officer who requested anonymity said the 150-man company of paratroopers were stationed in Moussoro to operate and [words indistinct] French ground troops to Chad "for the time being."

France sent 3,000 ground troops to Chad in 1983 to help Mr. Habre counter an earlier Libyan-backed rebel offensive. The soldiers were withdrawn in 1984 under a mutual pullout accord signed with Libya, but Tripoli kept an estimated 5,000 troops in northern Chad.

The French officer said the radar at Moussoro, which lies 250 kilometers (155 miles) south of the 16th parallel dividing rebel-held northern Chad from government-controlled territory, would provide radar cover up to 700 kilometers (435 miles) from Ndjamena.

This would effectively permit air surveillance as far as Faya Largeau, a major Libyan-supplied rebel base and airfield about 500 kilometers (310 miles) north of Moussoro.

The Hawk missiles currently in place around Ndjamena Airport were shipped to the Chadian capital Friday aboard a U.S. Air Force C-130 Galaxy chartered by France, French officials here said.

Also Friday the U.S. State Department announced that Washington had shipped Redeye portable anti-aircraft missiles, firearms and ammunition to Chad since the recent flare-up in the civil war. [words indistinct] Chad following the February 17 bombing raid on Ndjamena.

He said the new radar installation at Moussoro and the Hawk missiles in the capital were put into operation to fill certain "gaps" in defenses designed to protect the regime of Mr. Habre from further attacks.

France's recent increase in military aid to Chadian President Hissein Habre is a "grave threat to peace and security in Africa," Libyan Foreign Minister al-Turayki charged Friday in a letter to the United Nations Security Council.

Mr. Turayki denied any responsibility for recent clashes in Chad. He blamed the "grave deterioration" of the situation in Chad on "the rebel Hissein Habre." The stepped-up French military presence since the new clashes "could hinder" efforts by the Organisation of African Unity to settle the conflict in Chad, he warned.

GABON

Omar Bongo Returns From Tunisia, Lauds Relations

AB272143 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] President Omar Bongo of Gabon returned to Libreville this afternoon after a state visit to Tunisisa, the result of which he described as very positive. This visit, made in the spirit of South-South cooperation, ended with the signing of several cooperation agreements between the two countries. The agreements, of which one is financial, one is commercial and technical cooperation, define clearly the relations prevailing henceforth between the two countries, and [words indistinct], said the Gabonese head of state. The Gabonese head of state also announced that a 2-week Tunisian commercial fair will be organized in Gabon in April this year.

ZAIRE

State Commissioner Seeks Support for Fiscal Plan

AB021400 Paris AFP in French 1540 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 1 Mar (AFP) — The Zairian Government has called on its economic partners, particularly the World Bank, the IMF, and the EEC to support its economic recovery policy, State Commissioner Kengo Wa Dondo announced in a speech quoted by the ZAIRIAN PRESS AGENCY, AZAP. Consultations are scheduled for March and April in European capitals in order to sensitize Zaire's partners on the need to work toward the success of its economic recovery plan, it is recalled. The meeting, which will take place in Brussels from 10 to 11 March 1986, is expected to secure an increased participation of foreign partners in the recovery efforts through public and private financial contributions and rescheduling of foreign debts, AZAP specifies.

Meanwhile, the prime minister stated before the government on Friday that according to information available now, the Zairian economic situation will improve in 1986 because of the stabilization of coffee prices, fall of the value of the dollar, and drop in the price of oil. According to him, all of these factors brought together will result in an economic recovery in the industrialized countries, which will affect the Zairian economy and help boost exports. This will also positively affect the balance of payments and the value of the currency, Mr Kengo added.

BENIN

Malian President Traore Arrives 28 Feb, Comments

AB281335 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
0615 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The Beninese people yesterday welcomed a distinguished son of Mali, General Moussa Traore, who is on his first visit to our country. His visit will last 2 days. The Malian head of state was welcomed yesterday at 1225 at Cadjehoun International Airport by our great comrade-in-arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, top ranking officials of our party and our revolutionary state as well as by militants of our revolution who came out en masse to welcome the Malian president and showed Beninese hospitality and fraternity.

In the VIP lounge, President Moussa Traore answered questions from representatives of our national press who first welcomed him to our country. The Malian head of state expressed his feelings to our correspondent Sylvestre Zomahou when setting foot on Beninese soil.

[Begin recording] [Traore] First of all, I would like to thank my brother and friend, President Mathieu Kerekou, for his invitation to visit Benin. I would also like to thank the members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee as well as the members of the government and the whole population of Cotonou for their warm, fraternal, and friendly welcome.

Indeed, it is the first time I am visiting Benin and by doing so, I had in mind the desire to come to strengthen and develop the cooperation between the People's Republic of Benin and the Republic of Mali.

As you know, several agreements were signed between our two countries and we would like to add to the already existing agreements, some other agreements and convections which will certainly enable us to develop and strengthen bilateral cooperation between Benin and Mali.

[Zomahou] After the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] heads of state summit which drew up plans to find a solution to the conflict between Mali and Burkina Faso, what is this organization doing now on the bilateral as well as multilaterial levels to promote a long-lasting peaceful solution to the conflict between these two brotherly and friendly countries of the People's Republic of Benin?

[Traore] The extraordinary summit of the ANAD which took place in Yamoussokro from 17 to 18 January, followed the cease-fire both countries agreed to respect. By going to Yamoussokro, we were sure to make another step forward in the respect of the cease-fire by withdrawing our troops from occupied territories. And we should repeat this, Mali has accepted to withdraw its troops. By doing so, Mali thus initiated the move towards a cooperation with Burkina Faso. That is why, within the framework of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] forthcoming summit, a delegation of experts just went to Ouagadougou to participate in the debate jointly with our friends and brothers, members of the CEAO. This once again clearly demonstrates our country's desire to turn this page of the common history of Burkina Faso and Mali.

[Zomahou] Mr President, Mali and Benin are two countries which are facing the same development problems. You just said that your visit to Cotonou will enable our two countries to strengthen the bonds of cooperation existing between them. But concretely, in what kind of joint venture can Mali and Benin engage in order to better deal with the current economic crisis?

[Traore] Mr Reporter, I would like to tell you this: before the independence of the People's Republic of Benin and the Republic of Mali, there were already very important commercial exchange between the two countries. And this trade went on for some time. These exchanges were of various nature. There were all the agricultural products of Benin being channeled towards the eastern region of Mali. Almost all the livestock of this region was led towares Benin. All the agricultural production and the livestock of the eastern region of Mali were sent to Benin. So why not resume this fruitful commercial exchange between Mali and Benin? This is concretely what can be undertaken. Here, in concrete words, what was going on at that time: the eastern part of Mali was supplied in hydrocarbon from [words indistinct]. Why not resume this same exchange? All this will surely develop and strengthen the fraternal cooperation between Mali and Benin. These are the concrete objectives to be achieve because they existed even before the independence of our two countries. [End recording]

After the welcoming ceremony at the Cotonou's international airport, our distinguished guest held a private talk with President Mathieu Kerekou. Nothing was disclosed from this audience. But there is no doubt that the two leaders discussed ways and means to consolidate the relations of fraternal cooperation which have always existed between the Malian and Beninese peoples.

The Malian head later granted an audience to the Malian nationals living in our country.

Cooperation Talks With Nigeria Conclude

AB021028 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The Nigerian and Beninese delegations, which have been discussing cooperation for 3 days now, ended their deliberations early this afternoon. Comrade Antionio Hospice, our minister of finance and economy, and Alhaji Bonu Sheriff Musa, the Nigerian minister of industry, as well as their various delegations ended their discussions with a final session at which they discussed new initiatives to be taken concerning the viability of the Save Sugar Company and the [words indistinct] Company.

NIGERIA

Interior Minister Announces Reopening of Borders

AB281826 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 28 Feb 86

["Special broadcast" by Lieutenant Colonel John Shagaya, minister of internal affairs, in Lagos on 28 February — live or recorded]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, about 22 months ago, the defunct military administration was forced by very serious political, economic, and social considerations to take the extreme measure of closing Nigeria's land borders. The immediate cause at the time was the change in the color of Naira. But other equally serious but remote causes were the unbridled illegal trafficking in Nigerian petroleum products and currency trafficking across our borders, large-scale smuggling of agricultural products, particularly cocoa and other food crops. As if this were not enough, citizens of our neighboring countries were pouring into Nigeria in the thousands without valid documents as required by our laws and the treaty of ECOWAS. Some of these illegal aliens had had some [word indistinct] drian on our economy engaged in really bad antisocial behaviors like stealing and armed robbery.

When the present administration came into power at the end of August last year, a careful assessment of the situation was undertaken [words indistinct] considered in appropriate sphere the reopening of the borders. However, the government continued to allow relief material to pass through its borders to neighboring countries that were ravaged by war or natural disasters. Because of the numerous appeals for the reopening of the border by some of our neighbors and because Nigeria cannot keep its borders closed forever, the present administration embarked on a deliberate policy of finding lasting solutions to the problems that led to the border closure.

Some of the steps already taken include the repatriation of illegal aliens, creation of new border posts, and strengthening of existing ones. Steps were also taken to increase the numerical number of our border security agencies, acquisition of modern border patrol equipment, bilateral and multilateral talks with Nigeria's neighboring countries on border security were also carried out.

A joint border tour of the western borders by functionaries at the highest level of Government in Nigeria and the People's Republic of Benin to educate the people on the evils of smuggling and the need for peaceful coexistence was carried out. Appeals were also made to Nigerians living along the borders for patriotism. Control was also placed on the sale of petroleum products within 20 km of our borders.

The government also intends in the near future to institutionalize regular meetings and joint border patrols between its own security agencies along the borders and those of its neighbors. The effects of the measures already taken have been found to be satisfactory.

In the light of this and in order to give a thought to the pledge made by the president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, on assumption of office, it has now been decided that Nigeria's land borders will be opened with effect from midnight today with the exception of Nigeria-Chad border. The government is of course aware that the factors that necessitated the closure in the first place have not all been completely eliminated but has decided to reopen the borders as a measure of its faith in Nigerians to show patriotism and desist from those acts that are capable of ruining the country's economy. It is also a gesture to promote good-neighborliness and facilitate economic and social activities within the ECOWAS subregion.

Finally, the Federal Government appeals to Nigerians and citizens of the ECOWAS subregion not to see this gesture as an opportunity to open the flood-gate of smuggling, illegal entry, and other nefarious activities. On the other hand, it should be seen as an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of friendship among our countries and peoples, promote legitimate trade and foster bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Those who wish to come to Nigeria to work or do business are welcome as long as they observe the normal immigration and other procedures as Nigeria will react appropriately in the event of the violation of any of its laws.

Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria! Long live African unity! Thank you!

Bulgarian Deputy Minister Departs for Cameroon

AB271903 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] The Bulgarian deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Lyubomir Popov, left Lagos today for the Republic of Cameroon at the end of his 2-day official visit to Nigeria. During his stay in the country, Mr Popov held discussions with government officials on how to strengthen the existing cordial relations between his country and Nigeria.

SENEGAL

UN Secretary General Arrives for Visit

AB281549 Dakar PANA in French 1125 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Dakar, 28 Feb (PANA) — The secretary general of the United Nations arrived this morning in Dakar from New York. Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar was welcomed by Medoune Fall, the Senegalese minister for defense, and by almost all the members of the Senegalese Government.

The UN secretary general, who came at the invitation of Abdou Diouf, the Senegalese head of state and current chairman of the OAU, made no statement to the press on arrival in the Senegalese capital. He is accompanied by a delegation comprising, notably, Massamba Sarre, the Senegalese permanent representative to the United Nations.

During his sojourn in Dakar, the UN secretary general will hold two rounds of talks with the Senegalese president. During these talks, current international and African political issues will be tackled. It is believed in the Senegalese capital that Mr de Cuellar and President Abdou Diouf will particularly center their discussions on the situation in southern Africa and will also discuss the forthcoming conference of the UN General Assembly on African economy and the international conference on the economic sanctions against South Africa scheduled to take place in June and May respectively. The present difficulties encountered by the multilateral organizations for international cooperation will also be discussed, observers say.

The UN secretary general will leave Dakar on Sunday [2 March] and will hold a press conference on Saturday evening [1 March].

Working Session With Diouf

AB011541 Dakar PANA in French 1756 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Dakar, 28 Feb (APS-SEN/PANA) — The UN secretary general, Jarier Perez de Cuellar, and the current OAU chairman, President Abdou Diouf, on Friday held their first working session which was preceded by private talks a few hours after the arrival of Mr Perez de Cuellar in Dakar. A second working session will take place on Saturday [1 March] and will be attended by the UN functionaries accompanying Mr Perez de Cuellar, as it was in the case of the first one.

The recent political developments in southern Africa and in the horn of Africa, the Western Sahara, and particularly the special UN session scheduled for next May on the critical economic situation in Africa are the issues to be discussed during the talks that the UN delegation will hold with the current OAU chairman.

Javier Perez de Cuellar will also visit the Goree Island on Saturday and will give a press conference the same day before his departure for New York.

Concludes Visit

AB021408 Paris AFP in French 1321 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Dakar, 2 Mar (AFP) — UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has expressed the wish that the UN special session on the economic situation in Africa which is to take place in May should not end with a "lyrical declaration."

"We want this conference to come out with something concrete," the UN secretary general stressed Sunday morning [2 March] during a press conference.

Mr Perez de Cuellar, who has left Dakar after a 48-hour visit to Senegal, hopes that a consensus will come out of this conference, but added that one must not expect a final political declaration, because of the continent's economic problems.

Concerning the Chadian issue, the leading UN official stated that the documents of this case had to be left [words indistinct] the OAU which has assigned Congolese head of state Denis Sassou-Nguesso with a mediation mission.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Returns From CPSU Congress 28 Feb

MB281702 Luanda ANGOP in Spanish 1638 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Luanda, 28 Feb (ANGOP) — Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, returned to Luanda today from Moscow, where he attended the 27th CPSU Congress.

It should be recalled that the Angolan head of state delivered a speech at the CPSU Congress on Wednesday. The congress began at the Congress Room of the Kremlin, in Moscow, last Tuesday.

Before leaving Moscow, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos held a meeting with Nikolay Ryzhkov, the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in the Kremlin on Thursday. This meeting centered on issues of bilateral interests and the USSR official condemned the policy of interference pursued by the racist South African regime and imperialism headed by the United States.

During his stay in Moscow, the Angolan head of state heading an Angolan party and government delegation also met with his Cuban counterpart, Fidel Castro, with whom he discussed bilateral relations and the tense international political situation.

ANGOP Reports RSA Troop Actions, Overflights

MB020851 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Yet another 10 actions by the invading South African forces took place in Namibe and Cunene Provinces between 10 and 20 February.

According to ANGOP, which we are quoting, these new provocative actions of the Pretoria army continued to be carried out in close collaboration with the UNITA bandits. In confirmation of previous looting actions by the invading army, on 16 February the people of (Enhaque), (Ugunanga), and (Engue) in Cunene Province were maltreated and robbed by the South African troops.

Also in Cunene Province, a number of movements of the South African army and mixed forces including UNITA bandits were observed in the areas of (Etombi), Cahama, Calumba, Chiede, Nehone, (Ndova), and Chica between 10 and 14 February.

According to the ANGOP communique, last month a South African military column entered a mine field 70 km from Cahama, resulting in the destruction of two vehicles.

Between 15 and 20 February, the South African Air Force increased its flights over Cunene Province. This act of aggression was carried out by 22 South African helicopters over the areas of Cahama, (Chimbemba), Evale, (Enda), Mongua, Chiede, Nehone, Mmlunga, and (Dedesda).

A total of three South African aircraft flew over the regions of Baia dos Tigres, Tombua, and (Guediva) in Namibe Province on 11 February.

Recently, a group of bandits in the pay of the Pretoria regime tried to attack the agricultural headquarters of [Cadar] state enterprise in Cuanza Sul Province.

UNITA Major, Others Killed in FAPLA Operation

MB281044 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] A former UNITA major, the leader of the bandits who massacred the people of the municipality of Caconda in Huila Province, was captured last Tuesday when he was trying to perpetrate another treacherous attack. Official sources in Lubango confirmed that during the operation that led to the capture of that criminal, FAPLA soldiers killed 10 others and captured five 81-mm mortar shells and three 70-mm mortar shells. In the municipality of Caconda, the puppets massacred in 20 days peasants of Chicande and (Huaba).

Also, 73 UNITA bandits were killed recently by the Angolan defense and security forces in Bie, Benguela, and Cuanda Cubango provinces. Some 12 counterrevolutionaies who had (?committed terrorist actions) have been tried in the military tribunal of the (?fourth) political-military region.

BOTSWANA

Government Official Meets ANC in Lusaka

MB010910 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] A representative of the Government of Botswana has held talks with the ANC in Lusaka. This step follows last week's bilateral consultation between Botswana and South Africa, wherein it was agreed that both countries would initiate measures to prevent the ANC from using Botswana territory as a launching pad for attacks against South Africa.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Blames U.S., U.K., RSA, FRG for Coup

MB020652 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 28 Feb-6 Mar p2

[By Mike Pitso]

[Text] In his first interview since falling from power last month, Lesotho's former Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan has blamed four foreign powers — including South Africa — for the toppling of his government.

Interviewed by *WEEKLY MAIL* at his home at Ha Rakilo in the district of Laribe about 70km north of Maseru, Jonathan accused South Africa, the United States, Britain and West Germany for the collapse of his government.

American and British people in Maseru had informed him before the coup that their governments were not satisfied with the presence in Maseru of diplomatic missions from the Soviet Union, China and North Korea because these countries were infiltrating what they saw as their sphere of influence.

Jonathan said last month's economic blockade of Lesotho by South Africa was part of the plan to overthrow his government. During the siege, he had appealed to Britain and the United States to send emergency aid, but both countries "did not even have the courtesy to reply" to his request.

The deposed leader said he did not regret establishing diplomatic relation with communist countries and, if he returned to power through elections, he would have more communist diplomatic missions.

South Africa had earlier threatened to repatriate thousands of Lesotho migrant workers in order to create a situation of instability in his country he said.

Jonathan said Lesotho's new military rulers had threatened to ban public politics in Lesotho. He warned them not to take these "drastic steps" as that was tantamount to dictatorship. He denied having built up a private army before the military takeover. He said the Youth League of his party were trained by North Koreans as part of his efforts to build up the people's militia in order to augment the facilities of the army.

He admitted that his party had allied itself with ANC. He did not regret it because the ANC was the future government of South Africa, he said. He described South Africa's apartheid policies as a threat to the peace and security of the whole of southern Africa. He called on South Africa to talk to the ANC "before the door is shut in their faces."

Jonathan — who called off elections in his country when it was clear he was losing them and failed to hold elections for 15 years — also called on the new military rulers in Lesotho to hold general elections in which he would participate.

Lesotho's rulers must return the country to democracy if they wanted to be respected internationally, he said.

Representative of the British High Commission in Maseru described Jonathan's allegation against his government as nonsense. The British Government did not interfere in the internal affairs of countries with which it has diplomatic relations. It is a matter entirely for Lesotho to choose the countries with which it had diplomatic relations, he said. A spokesman for the American Embassy declined to comment.

Military Council Members Meet Political Leaders

MB280915 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Three members of the Military Council of Lesotho yesterday met a 5-man delegation of leaders of Lesotho's political parties and discussed the current situation in Lesotho. The discussions centered on the need for continued consultations between different groups in Lesotho, with a view to achieving stability and national reconciliation among all shades of opinion.

Although the meeting was described as a courtesy call, the two delegations agreed to work towards the common goal of attaining peace and unity for the benefit of all Basotho, regardless of any affiliations which characterize their divisions in the past.

The Military Council delegation consisted of Colonel Thaabe Letsie, Colon Nkhahle Tsotetsi, and Colonel Tutsoane Ramaema. The political parties wre represented by Mr A.C. Manyeli of the NIP [National Independence Party], Mr C.D. Mofeli of the UDP [United Democratic Party], Mr G.P. Ramoreboli of the BCP [Basotho Congress Party], Mrs Nqojane of the BDA [Basotho Democratic Alliance], and Mr (S. Mapeleba) of the NFP [expansion unknown].

It is expected that further consultations with these and other groups of Basotho of good will be held by the Military Council in future.

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Forces Capture MNR Base 2 Mar

AB021850 Paris AFP in English 1828 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Maputo, March 2 (AFP) — Government forces have captured a base used by the rebel Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) Movement in the southern province of Inhambane, the national radio reported today.

Manianje base in the Homoine District, which covered eight square kilometres (three square miles), was stormed on February 20, when government troops killed 24 rebels and set free 204 peasants, who the report said were "obliged to live with the bandits" at the base since 1982.

The Inhambane provincial military commander, Major-General Domingos Fondo, told journalists the base had been supplied by South African aircraft, and there was also evidence of drilling for oil nearby. He suggested one aim of the capture of the base had been to prevent further exploration for oil.

Maj-Gen Fondo said the capture of Manianje had been preceded by operations against the rebels at Bairrada in Massinga District further north on February 16, and Alfeio, near Homoine on February 19.

The MNR controlled all transport and trading networks in Inhambane for about 18 months from 1982, but with the capture of their base at Tome in 1983 its stranglehold on the province was loosened, the MOZAMBIQUE NEWS AGENCY AIM said.

Further on Capture of Base

MB021122 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The main camp of the armed bandits in Inhambane Province was recently taken by the FPLM forces. During the operation, known as the operation of the 17th Anniversary of Our Heroes, our forces killed 24 bandits, captured 14 light weapons, and freed 204 people who lived under the yoke of the criminals since 1982.

Cleanup operations are continuing at the moment. Party and government brigades are working to reintegrate the people held captive by the armed bandits.

According to statements by Major General Domingos Fondo, the provincial military commander, to the media the camp was situated in a strategic place where the bandits were supplied by South African aircraft. The camp was also near a petroleum borehole which was made by the Portuguese colonial government. It is thought that one of the main tasks of the bandits in that area was to prevent any attempts to restart petroleum exploration.

88 'Bandits' Killed in Recent Operations

MB020853 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 2 Mar 86

[From the Armed Forces "Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] A total of 88 armed bandits have been killed by our forces in operations carried out in Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala, and Zambezia Provinces over the last few days.

In the course of those search and destroy operations, the FPLM forces captured three armed bandits and an assortment of war materiel, including bazookas, light weapons, and 60-mm mortar rockets.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Undecided About Members Accused of Spying

MB281347 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1332 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 28, SAPA — SWAPO has not yet decided on the future of about 100 members in its ranks accused of spying for South Africa, according to a SWAPO statement from London published in Windhoek today.

"Detailed investigations are continuing and, although it is clear we will eventually have to deal with these people, we have not yet reached the stage of making decisions on what we will do with those involved," the statement said.

The existence of informers inside the organisation was disclosed at a news briefing in London earlier this month by SWAPO's newly-appointed secretary for foreign relations, Mr Theo-Ben Gurirab, and the organisation's publicity and information secretary, Mr Hidipo Hamutenya.

Investigations into the "spy network" began in December 1983 after the second in command of SWAPO's armed wing, Mr Tauno Hatikulipi, had confessed to sending military information about SWAPO to the South African authorities. He was understood to have committed suicide shortly afterwards.

The latest SWAPO statement did not rule out the possibility of bringing the people to trial.

"At no point either before, during or since the briefing at which a small portion of the evidence we have accumulated on the South African spy network was presented, did Comrade Gurirab or any other SWAPO representiave state that SWAPO was refusing to put on trial those who have been indicted by the evidence," it said.

"We made it clear that while some are real traitors, we would not victimise those who had been misled and coerced into working as enemy agents.

"We recognise all those people as fellow Namibians and wish to rehabilitate them wherever possible.

"They will not be unjustly dealt with."

The statement added that SWAPO was continuing "to handle the issue responsibly and with care." Most of those suspected of handing on information to South African agencies are believed to be held in SWAPO camps in Angola.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government To Take No Action Against Mabuza Visit

MB281823 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] A 19-member delegation from the self-governing state of Kangwane has left for Lusaka for talks with the ANC. The delegation is led by Chief Minister Enos Mabuza who addressed a news conference in Johannesburg prior to departure.

[Begin video] [Reporter Cliff Saunders] The chief minister said the main reason for his visit was because he believed the ANC had an important role to play in South Africa. He had spoken to the South African Government and now wished to speak to the ANC in the hope that eventually the parties would come together.

[Mabuza] And that is the achievement I would like to make. Whether I will succeed or not, I cannot say at this stage.

[Saunders] Asked if he would be calling on the ANC to stop the kind of violence where innocent civilians were killed, Mr Mabuza indicated that under present circumstances he would find difficulty in doing so. This is because he could not report to the ANC that apartheid violence had stopped.

[Mabuza] At this state I can't say that, and I think at this stage both parties have to realize the cruelty and futility of violence.

[Saunders] Mr Mabuza said it would be to the disadvantage of the South African Government to react negatively to his visit to Lusaka. He was asked whether he had consulted with the South African Government prior to leaving for Lusaka because of government ruling that strong action would be taken against those visiting Lusaka for talks with the ANC.

[Mabuza] I did not anticipate problems, and I had no reason to consult them. [end video]

Our political staff reports that the South African Government has made it clear that it will not take any steps to stop Mr Mabuza's visit to the ANC. The minister of internal affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, said he saw the chief minister as the leader of a self-governing state and thus could not intervene.

Mabuza-ANC Talks Under Way

MB011035 Umtata Captial Radio in English 1000 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Talks between Kangwane's chief minister, Enos Mabuza, and the ANC are underway in the Zambian capital of Lusaka. As Peter Thornycroft reports, the discussions are expected to last for 3 days.

[Thornycroft] Chief Minister Mabuza, who has been described by the ANC as a potential member of the broad democratic movement in South Africa, and his delegation of 21, will give their views on the present situation in the country to the ANC delegation led by President Oliver Tambo. The ANC delegation also includes the treasurer general, Mr Thomas Nkobi; the deputy Mr ?(Brian Hini); the information counselor, Mr Thabo Mbeki; and representatives of the ANC's women and youth leagues. The Kangwane delegation returns home on Tuesday.

Talks Conclude

MB031417 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Two days of talks between the ANC and a delegation led by Kangwane leader, Enos Mabuza, has ended in Lusaka. Mr Mabuza is expected back in Johannesburg tomorrow. Howard Barrel reports on the tenure of the talks:

[Barrel] An ANC official spokesman in Lusaka says the talks went very well. The two sides have prepared a joint communique which would be released tomorrow, he added. Mabuza and his delegation spent the day touring the ANC farm near Lusaka where the outlawed movement grows food for its Zambian-based community, which numbers several hundreds.

The ANC spokesman says the outlawed movement regarded Mabuza as a potential member of the democratic movement. The ANC did not see him in the same light as it regards other bantustan leaders such as Chief Gatsha Buthelezi and Lennox Sebe.

Cape Town City Council To Establish Civic Patrol

MB271944 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1943 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 27, SAPA — The Cape Town City Council has decided to establish and fund a civic patrol of 16 members to enforce municipal by-laws and control anti-social behavior in public places.

The council has been considering forming a municipal police force since 1978 in an attempt to reduce the city's high crime rate. In 1981 the government refused the council financial assistance on the grounds that a civic patrol would duplicate the function of the South African Police.

The patrol will be managed by the traffic control branch and will operate initially only in the city centre and other selected areas and will act as a deterrent rather than law enforcer. The patrol will cost the city more than R260,000 a year.

Port Elizabeth Council Vetoes Decision on Beaches

MB280727 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2028 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Feb 27, SAPA — The Port Elizabeth [PE] City Council tonight vetoed a committee decision authorising municipal officials to lay charges against people contravening beach race laws.

Packed public galleries of over 100 people and about 15 newsmen and three camera teams watched the one and a quarter hour debate during which 15 of the 22 councillors spoke and which attracted international media attention.

There was a searing attack on the mayor, Mr Ben Olivier, by Mr H. van zyl Cillie, who said: If you pander to the archaic and shortsighted demands of the HNP (Herstigte Nasionale Party) on the beach issue, you make a complete mockery of your so-called pride in PE Project.

But later Mr Olivier supported Mr Krige's motion and said the granting of rights to officials to lay charges was not in good taste and would do harm to race relations.

Introducing his motion, Mr Krige said the committee, with a presumption and insensitivity which is mind boggling, has effectively committed our city to beach apartheid enforced by criminal sanctions.

The committee's action is disgraceful and is not only detrimental to race relations but also weakens the American-dominated economy of the city by providing ammunition for the already strong overseas disinvestment lobbies.

Mr Cillie said it seemed some councillors had not grasped that South Africa was in a state of siege and the community services committees decision was an embarrassment to the government and had cast Port Elizabeth in the eyes of the outside world as the country's polecat.

South Africa's communist enemies also wished the southern beaches to remain closed to aggravate the conflict situation fuelling their revolutionary cause. He said only the right lunatic fringe of the political spectrum would lay charges against people contravening outdated beach race laws.

Mr Cillie told Mr Olivier: The fact that your courage failed you when invited to go on national television on the issue places in question your suitability to remain mayor of the friendly city.

Mr Lomo du Plessis said the council would not cross the Rubicon tonight. The separate amenities act is not scrapped yet and we must abide by it and enforce the law. Don't come with this apartheid is dead. No laws have changed.

Mr Graham Young said it was a sad moment that the council should discuss this when the whole country was suffering under violence.

Mr Aubrey Braude said the council was floating in orbit and should come down: Don't fiddle while Rome is burning.

Mr Danie Dorfling said political leftists on the council were a fiasco in the chamber. He disclosed that he had received a letter from the Chamber of Commerce and a letter in a SA Perm [South African Permanent Building Society] envelope attempting to influence him. The law has been made and must be obeyed. It is our duty to maintain law and order, he said.

Mr Chris Meyer said the reason for the motion was obviously to further Progressive Party politics.

NP MPC Calls for Dropping Private School Quotas

MB271928 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1920 GMT 27 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 27, SAPA — A National Party [NP] MPC [Member of Provincial Council], Mr Ray Radue, (King Williams Town) conceded in the provincial council in Cape Town today suggested the "quota system" allowing blacks to enter private schools be abolished. [sentence as received]

Mr Radue, who crossed the floor from the New Republic Party to the NP in May last year, was commenting on a private member's motion from Mr Jan Van Eck [Progressive Federal Party (PFP), Groote Schuur] calling on the administrator, Mr Gene Louw, to urge the government for a single, non-racial ministry of education without internal racial divisions.

"There can be no denying that the system of bantu education applied in the past left a legacy of sub-standard pupils and underqualified black teachers," he said.

"There is no doubt that there is a demand from certain quarters, including the PFP, for open schooling."

Certain private schools had chosen to become multi-racial and those that received government subsidies were restricted in the admission of pupils of colour, he said.

"Should not the Department of National Education consider the abolition of the quota system for these schools and allow them to select their pupils on merit?

"And should the government not increase the subsidies to allow for multi-racial education at those private schools which wish to provide that facility?" he said. "If they flourish we can learn more. If they don't we will not have jeopardised our whole education system."

East London Council Scraps Residential Segregation

MB020645 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] The East London City Council has voted to scrap residential segregation and to throw the city open to all races. Franz Kruger reports:

[Kruger] The decision was taken at a closed session of the council's regular monthly meeting and it is believed to be the first time a local authority has come out in favor of mixed areas. It is believed unlikely that the decision will have much immediate impact however, as the city council has no power to change group areas legislation. The decision is in a form of a recommendation to the central government, which has made it clear it does not favor mixed residential areas.

Although the council's decision is already well known in the city, there has been no official confirmation as it was taken in committee. But council member Donald Card, a prominent supporter of open areas, said he was well pleased with what has happened.

PFP's Suzman Says Power Transfer Not Imminent

MB281415 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1407 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Oxford, Feb 28, SAPA — The false impression that transfer of power to blacks was imminent had kept unrest in South Africa at fever point and had caused the death of over 1,000 people in the past 16 months, Mrs Helen Suzman, the Progressive Federal Party's spokesman on law and order said at Oxford University today.

Mrs Suzman, who was taking part in a debate at the Oxford Union on whether sanctions were necessary to abolish apartheid, said, in a speech released by her office in Cape Town, that the sanctions campaign had created a delusion among township blacks that the transfer of power was imminent.

"Nothing could be further from the truth...People living 9,000km away from the scene, who think they can judge the situation accurately, have no idea of the strength and ferocity of the military inside South Africa."

Victory was not only not around the corner but not even within sight. The transfer of power was not only not imminent but not even under consideration.

"Keep up the condemnation of apartheid... but not the pressures that will lead to chaos and the wrecking of the economy. That is the strategy of despair — destroying the inheritance that blacks inevitably will one day share."

Mrs Suzman said the eradication of apartheid would be an important gain for civil rights movements, but it should not be done at the cost of more deaths, poverty, misery, starvation and oppression.

"If I thought the sanctions campaign would swiftly rid us of the system of apartheid and replace it with a non-racial democracy, I would, I assure you, back it to the hilt."

Anyone who believed that the government would collapse following the imposition of sanctions showed ignorance of the intransigence of the nationalist Afrikaner character and the determination of many English-speaking whites to retain white domination for as long as possible.

"They will agree, and already have, to incremental change, some of it more than cosmetic, but total transfer of power, total dismantling of apartheid and removal of the foundation stones such as the Group Areas Act, the Race Classification Act and the Lands Act are simply not in the cards."

She said that if continued pressure was applied the government would retreat into the laager and bring about an even more oppressive system.

"I do not think you ought to bluff yourselves either into believing that the ANC, which now demands no less than a total transfer of power, is striving a non-racial democratic South Africa."

By the time a revolution came about, the "fiery young turks" would nationalise everything in sight and would deride any "old-fashioned ideas" such as a free press, free association, the rule of law and free elections.

Mrs Suzman's opponent in the debate was the former editor of the *DAILY DISPATCH*, Mr Donald Woods, who left South Africa several years ago.

Boraine 'Almost Definitely' Joining UDF

MB281947 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1935 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 28, SAPA — Dr Alex Boraine will almost definitely be joining the United Democratic Front [UDF] following his resignation from Parliament on February 13.

The former PFP MP for Pinelands and PFP Federal Council chairman said this after addressing a meeting at the University of Cape Town where he shared a platform with UDF executive member, Mr Graeme Bloch.

During question time after the talk, titled "Parliament: Does It Have Any Future?" Dr Boraine was asked whether he would consider joining the UDF. He replied to loud applause from the crowd of about 500 students: "If I did join the UDF, which is highly probable, it will be in a very ordinary capacity. I do not want to be presumptuous.

"My biggest problem in joining the UDF would be being accepted by them," he said.

Later Dr Boraine said: "I have talked at length with some of the UDF leadership since I left Parliament and I have no problems with the organisation. I am very strongly considering joining the UDF as an ordinary member, if they will have me, and will almost definitely do so if doing so does not prevent other organisations with which I have contact from talking to me."

There was a "crucial difference" between Parliament where laws were made and repealed and the process that led to the making and repealing of laws.

"The process is taking place outside Parliament, it is the direct result, not of a small opposition party, but of events in the townships, pressures from outside the country, pressures on the government so it has had to shift its ground slowly but surely."

Mr Bloch said that 1985 the PFP began "panicking and faltering, and we saw the irrelevance of the PFP in Parliament, under a state of emergency which had nothing to with Parliament, when decisions were being taken by the state security council."

He accused the PFP leadership of "undermining the international sanctions campaign", of launching unjustified attacks on the UDF and of being a party to the launch of the National Convention Movement [NCM] which "was launched when our leaders are in jail or in hiding and are in no position to negotiate".

The PFP's cooperation with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi in the NCM was a "cynical alliance" and as a result of these factors it was "not surprising that the democratic movement in this country is suspicious" of the party.

But he said it was important to "separate the PFP from those whites who have chosen to align themselves with the democratic movement, to submit themselves to the discipline of the masses."

In the light of this, "we in the UDF are very pleased with Dr Boraine's decision to leave Parliament, it is a significant act."

Seven Suspected Terrorists Killed in Guguletu

MB031018 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1017 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 3, SAPA — Seven suspected terrorists were shot dead by police in Guguletu this morning as they lay in ambush for a police vehicle taking men to work.

Official details of the shooting were not available by mid-morning but it is understood that a police task force had hidden for hours near the scene of an expected ambush. A hand-greanade was thrown and two policeman were slightly injured in the shootout.

Police are understood to have taken possession of a fully loaded AK-47 automatic rifle, a number of handguns and greandes.

The commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, could not be contacted for comment this morning. Colonel Jaap Venter, head of the police public relations division in Pretoria, said full details of the incident would be released as soon as they were available.

It is understood that police, acting on information, took up positions near the intersection of NY1 and NY111 in Guguletu about 3am today.

About 7am a panel van carrying policemen to Guguletu police station for normal duties drove past the Murray and Roberts Hostel at the intersection. Another panel van stopped and seven armed men got out. The hidden policemen opened fire and a gun battle ensued.

Four men were killed near the two vehicles and three others are understood to have died in nearby bushes.

Later, Cape Town's top policemen went to the scene. Among them were the divisional commissioner of police, Brigadier Chris Swart, divisional inspector Brigadier M van Staden, divisional criminal investigation chief Brigadier Ronnie van der Westhuizen, and his deputy, Colonel Nick Acker.

Detectives from the murder and robbery squad took over the investigation as more that seven armoured personel carriers sealed off the scene of the shooting.

A roadblock was set up at the NY1 entrance to Guguletu and no vehicle were allowed to pass. A policeman on duty at the checkpoint said that "no-one is allowed in" and the road was "too dangerous to allow travel." Police vehicles were also stationed on Settlers Way.

At the scene, bodies lay where they had fallen. One was next to the vehicles involved in the shootout and another was across the road. A third was down a side street and a fourth apparently lying behind the vehicles.

A large crowd gathered outside the police cordon and armed policemen stood guard.

Police Issue Statement

MB031156 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1155 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 3, SAPA — Police took precautionary measures after it was learnt that the ANC were planning an attack on a police vehicle in Cape Town, a statement by the commissioner of the SA police, General Johan Coetzee, said today.

The police statement on the attack, in which seven people died and a policeman [as received] was injured, is as follows:

"After the police had received information that the ANC were planning an attack on a police vehicle in Cape Town, certain precautionary measures were taken.

"At 0720 on 1986/03/03, near the Guguletu police station, after the police had stopped a vehicle with black occupants, a skirmish between the police and ANC terrorists ensued, during which a hand grenade was hurled at the police and they were fired on.

"In the clash 7 ANC terrorists were killed and one policeman was slightly wounded. The police seized several AK-47 rifles, a number of rounds of ammunition and several pistols and handgrenades."

Police Vehicles Stoned; Man Killed, Woman Injured

MB030822 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0821 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 3, SAPA — A man was shot dead by police after he allegedly stoned a police patrol in the black township of Cleremont over the weekend.

Police said the unidentified man was killed when police used shotguns and teargas after a police vehicle was stoned.

In Lamontville, a woman was slightly injured when police opened fire after she allegedly stoned a police patrol.

Two buses were extensively damaged over the weekend by stone throwing mobs at Cleremont.

At Ashdown near Pietermaritzburg, a bus and a police vehicle were stoned.

Two Trade Unionists Arrested in Durban

MB030923 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0922 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 3, SAPA — Two trade unionists were arrested by police after a meeting at the offices of Diakonia in Durban yesterday.

Police said that, before the start of the meeting at the St Andrews Street offices, there were about 200 people singing and chanting in the street. After being asked to move the crowd went into the building.

After the meeting, Mr Njengabantu Sithole, of the Post Office and Allied Workers Union, was arrested and is expected to appear in court tomorrow on charges of assault and intimidation involving two policeman.

Mr Alec Erwin, education officer of the Congress of the South African Trade Unions, was also arrested. He was later released and was expected to face a charge of disturbing the peace, police said. Mr Erwin said the crowd consisted of 300 delegates who had come to attend a properly constituted regional congress. He said the police asked them to keep quiet, which they did.

Mamelodi Mourners Defying Police Order Dispersed

MB031014 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1009 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 3, SAPA — Police fired teargas to disperse mourners at the night vigils of two of three funeral services in Mamelodi at the weekend which had been restricted.

Mourners at the services of Mr Martin David Ndaba, 30, a National Automobile and Allied Workers Union organiser in Pretoria who died in a car accident, and Mrs Maria Khumalo, 48, a petrol bomb victim, had to run for cover on Friday night.

No one was hurt when police dispersed mourners who defied a police order restricting the number of people permitted to attend the services to 50.

The other restricted service was that of Mr Jemeriah Magubane Shabangu, who was killed during a robbery of bank in Germiston two weeks ago. Another man killed at the same time, Mr Phillemon Malefo, was buried at his parents' home at Thabana near Vaalsfontein on Sunday.

There were patrols in the township at the weekend. Police monitored the three services on Saturday.

The South African Defence Force manned roadblocks at entrances to the township on Saturday to prevent outsiders attending the services. A busful of unionists and workers was turned away. About 400 mourners defied the police order and attended the service for Mr Ndaba.

Police allegedly used water cannon on mourners in a bus and beat some of them as they returned from the cemetery after Mr Ndaba's burial. The other two services were reportedly without incident.

A police spokesman in Pretoria said the dispersal occurred because people defied orders. He said charges should be laid if people had complaints against the police.

Magistrate Alleges Assault by Bophuthatswana Police

MB281135 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1122 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 28, SAPA — A Garankuwa magistrate, Mr Gideon Ntsie, alleges he was assaulted and arrested by Bophuthatswana policemen, who put him in the boot of their car.

He says he was eventually released after being taken to the local police station, where other policemen recognised him.

"Two armed policemen put me in the boot of their car, but later took me out and kept me in the back seat for the whole night as they drove from one place to another in the township."

Increasing allegations of assault by the Bophuthatswana police on people in the Odi and Moretele districts of the homeland are being reported daily, despite officials' denials.

Since last weekend, a number of serious assault cases, including gunshot victims, were treated at the Garankuwa hospital.

A hospital spokesman confirmed that at least eight alleged police victims were admitted from Monday to Wednesday. Three of them had suffered gunshot wounds, three had ruptured eardrums and the others had facial and body injuries.

The liaison officer of the Bophuthatswana police, Colonel David George, said today he had no comment to make until Monday.

Hand Grenade Thrown at Chief's House Near Zeerust

MB281839 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1719 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Mafikeng, Feb 28, SAPA — A hand grenade was thrown at the house belonging to Chief Monnamere Moiloa of Dinokana village near Zeerust, police said today.

A Bophuthatswana police spokesman said the incident occurred at midnight on Wednesday. No arrests have yet been made.

Chief Moiloa, recently elected to the chieftanship of the Bahurutse tribe, said he received an anonymous letter telling him and his councillors to resign two days before the incident.

He said the grenade was thrown into his 22-year-old son's bedroom, but the young man escaped unhurt. Tight security measures were introduced at the chief's home and he asked for protection for his family.

Burned Body of Man Found in Walmer Township

MB031100 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1058 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 3, SAPA — The charred body of a man has been found in Walmer Township, Port Elizabeth.

Lieutenant-Colonel Eric Strydom, head of the East Cape murder and robbery squad, said the man was discovered in a street in the township with two tyres around his body.

3M Workers Strike To Support U.S. Counterparts

MB281833 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1741 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 28, SAPA — The South Africa flag was hauled down by picketing workers outside the 3M plant in Elandsfontien on the east Rand today while white workers locked inside the factory looked on from behind glass doors.

About 350 members of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWU) staged the strike to show solidarity with workers at a 3M plant in Freehold, New Jersey who will lose their jobs when the plant closes in June.

For the past three months, a campaign supported by popular rock star, Bruce Springsteen, has been held in America to try to convince management not to close the plant. Demonstrators at the Elandsfontien plant wore CCAWU t-shirts bearing the slogan "3M, don't abandon Freehold, our home town." "My home town" is the title of a current Springsteen hit.

The strike began at 1pm when mainly women picketers converged on the plant's rugby field. They then marched along the street around the plant, singing and waving CCAWU banners. When a request to deliver a memorandum to management on the reason for the strike was refused, the crowd dispersed but did not go back to work.

CCAWU spokesman said the workers were striking because they "were concerned about the welfare of others." "Workers solidarity involves give and take and we need to support each other."

Miss Deidre Jansen, public relations manager at 3M, said the New Jersey plant had to be closed because it was no longer economically viable. She said that the plant had worked out a separation package accepted by 137 union members and opposed by 44.

All entrances to the factory had been locked during the strike "to prevent a large influx of people from coming in," she said. "We have to protect our property and our workers," she said.

Asked whether the striking workers would be paid for this afternoon, she said "in general 3M does not pay workers while they are on strike."

Wolwekrans Miners Go on Strike Over Manager

MB281456 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1439 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 28, SAPA — The entire workforce at the Wolwekrans section of Douglas colliery had gone on strike, the National Union of Miner workers [NUM] reported this afternoon.

In a statement NUM said management "failed to honour their part of an agreement which was agreed earlier this week."

NUM said the major grievance was "worker dissatisfaction" with the hostel manager.

A spokesman for Rand Mines was not immediately available.

332 People in Detention; Total Stands at 7,156

MB280922 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0851 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Pretoria, Feb 28, SAPA — Twenty-three people were detained under the emergency regulations in the past week, according to the weekly police lists of detainees released in Pretoria today.

According to the lists, this brings the total number of detentions since the state of emergency was declared on July 21 last year to 7,156.

A spokesman for the police directorate of public relations said 332 people were at present in detention under the emergency regulations. At the end of last week the figure was 278.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 28 Feb

MB281718 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1713 GMT 28 Feb 86

[Text]0 Pretoria, Feb 28, SAPA — The following is the 7pm unrest report from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

"At Mamelodi near Pretoria the SAP (South African Police) used shotgun fire when arsonists extensively damaged a delivery vehicle.

"Tearsmoke were used when a mob stoned a police vehicle and barricaded a road on another occasion.

"At Tembisa, near Kempton Park, a delivery vehicle was slightly damaged by a petrol bomb.

"At the black residential area at Khuma, near Stilfontein in the western Transvaal, a man was wounded when the SAP used shotgun fire when their vehicle was stoned.

"A private home and car of a policeman was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"A mob petrol bombed a police vehicle and the SAP used shotgun fire to disperse the attackers.

"One woman was fatally wounded. Two women and two men were wounded.

"A man was wounded when a policeman used shotgun fire when he was intimidated at his home."

"In Soweto, Witwatersrand, a bus and two delivery vehicles was stoned.

"Another bus and a private vehicle was damaged by petrol bombs.

"The SAP used shotgun fire when another delivery vehicle was stoned.

"A factory was extensively damaged when it was stoned.

"A mob intimidated a group of workers. The workers used shotgun fire and eight men were wounded.

"At Sijakhutuka, near Belfort, a number of drivers drove tractors and lorries into the building of the administration board and the private dwellings of three council members, causing extensive damage. Nineteen men and two women were arrested.

"At Duncan Village, near East London, a private vehicle and bus were damaged by arsonists.

"At Sebokeng near Vereeniging, the SAP arrested nine male youths when a bus was stoned."

"The Mohlakeng stadium was damaged by arsonists.

"At Silobela, near Caroline, the SAP used tearsmoke and shotgun fire when their vehicle was stoned. Three policemen were slightly injured by the stones. Three men were arrested in the incident.

"An SADF (South African Defence Force) vehicle was shot at with catapults.

"At Khgotsong near Bothaville, a SAP vehicle and the private dwelling of a policeman were stoned.

"A man was arrested when another policeman's home was set alight.

"At Zwide in the eastern province, a policeman's home was stoned. He used a shotgun to disperse his attackers. No one was reported injured."

Ends report.

Early 1 Mar

MB010623 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0617 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 1, SAPA — The police unrest situation report to 8am follows:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Duncan Village near East London the SAP used 9mm pistols when a mob stoned their vehicle. No injuries were reported.

"At Katlehong on the east Rand four incidents occured where mobs stoned private vehicles. During one of these incidents the driver of a vehicle used a pistol. No injuries were reported.

"At Soweto, (WWR) [Witwatersrand] the SADF arrested two men when a bus was stoned. Another 11 male youths were arrested when the Moholo School was stoned. A private vehicle and a vehicle of the development board was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Mamelodi near Pretoria minor incidents occured where private vehicles were stoned. A private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists. Tearsmoke was used to disperse the mobs. During one of these incidents three men and one woman were arrested.

"At Claremont near Durban the SAP used shotgun fire when their vehicle was stoned. Two private vehicles and a dwelling was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Khutsong near Bothaville a policeman used shotgun fire when his home was attacked. One male youth was arrested. No injuries was reported.

"At the white residential area of Muizenberg in the WP [Wesform Province] a white man was slightly injured when a private vehicle was stoned.

"At Guguletu near Cape Town a policeman used a 30 revolver when a private vehicle was set alight. No injuries were reported. Four women were arrested for public violence."

Ends report.

Late 1 Mar

MB020447 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1617 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 1, SAPA — The following is the 7pm unrest report from the police directorate of public relations in Pretoria:

"At the black residential area, Gamagzi, near Uitenhage, the driver of a vehicle used a 7.55mm pistol when his vehicle was stoned. No injuries were reported.

"At Ikageng, near Potchefstroom, the SAP used shotgun fire when they were stoned. Two men were fatally wounded.

"Tearsmoke were used when people gathered [words indistinct].

"At the old black residential area near Brits in the northern Transvaal, a private dwelling was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Bella Bella black residential area near Warmbaths, the SAP used shotgun fire when they were stoned.

"The SAP dispersed a mob with sjambokks when a beerhall and a hostel were stoned.

"Five private dwellings and a vehicle were stoned.

"A policeman used a 9mm pistol when he was intimidated at his home.

"Eight men were arrested when a delivery vehicle was stoned.

"No injuries were reported during these incidents.

"At Guguletu in the Western Province, a private dwelling and vehicle were extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Soweto, Witwatersrand, a private vehicle was extensively damaged when it was petrol bombed. The vehicle drove through the arsonists, fatally injuring a man.

"On the Cullinana Road near Pretoria at a bus depot, a bus was set alight.

"At Lamontville near Durban, the SAP used shotgun fire when their vehicle was stoned. A woman was slightly injured and arrested."

Ends report.

Early 2 Mar

MB020622 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0621 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 2, SAPA — The unrest report to 7am issued by the SAP public relations directorate follows:

"At the white residential area in East London a group of blacks gathered illegally. They refused to disperse. The SAP used birdshot and the mob dispersed. No injuries were reported.

"At Lawaaikamp near George a private dwelling was extensively damaged when it was set alight at Lingulishle near Cradock: a policeman was slightly injured by a stone when his vehicle was stoned.

"At Claremont near Durban a number of buses were extensively damaged when they were stoned. The bus driver used his pistol during one of these incidents. A man was killed when the SAP used shotgun fire and tearsmoke when their vehicle was stoned.

"At Guguletbu near Cape Town a woman in a bus was slightly injured when buses were stoned.

"At Bridgestone coloured residential area near Oudtshoorn the hotel was stoned. A coloured woman was injured by the mob. The SAP used tear smoke to disperse them.

"At Mbekweni near Paarl two men and one women were injured when their home was petrol bombed. Four men were arrested when an SAP vehicle was stoned.

"At Nkqubelu near Robertson in the Boland a private dwelling was stoned and another petrol bombed. In another incident the SAP found the charred body with a burning tyre around his neck of an unknown black man who was about 26 years old.

"At Bonheuwel coloured residential area near Camaron in the South Western Districts at a merry ground a SAP vehicle was stoned. Tear smoke and shotgun fire were used to disperse the mob. One white man visiting there and one policeman were slightly injured by stones. Eight men and five male youths were arrested."

Ends report.

Late 2 Mar

MB030438 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1655 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 2, SAPA — The unrest report to 7pm today by the South African police directorate follows:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported during the day:

"At Bella Bella black residential area near Warmbad two private dwellings were set alight. The SAP used tearsmoke, rubber bullets, shotgun fire and sjamboks to disperse the mob. Two men were slightly injured. The SAP arrested 17 men.

"At the old black residential area near Kroonstad arsonists set alight the private dwelling of the caretaker of the Masheng Primary School.

"At Tembisa near Kempton Park a delivery vehicle was destroyed by arsonists.

"At Khutsong near Bothaville two private dwellings were slightly damaged and two delivery vehicles destroyed when they were set alight.

"At Lamontville near Durban the SAP used shotgun fire when a dwelling was stoned. No injuries were reported.

"At the black residential area of Joza in the Eastern Province a policeman was injured when SAP vehicles were stoned. Tearsmoke was used to disperse a mob. A private dwelling was damaged when it was stoned."

Ends report.

Early 3 Mar

MB030602 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0600 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 3, SAPA — The SAP public relations directorate's unrest situation report to 8am follows:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"In Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], buses were damaged by stonethrowers.

"At Ashdown near Pietermaritzburg, a bus and a police vehicle were stoned.

"At Claremont, near Durban, two buses were extensively damaged when they were petrol-bombed and stoned."

Ends report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

ILANGA on 'Free Trading Zones'

Durban *ILANGA* in Zulu on 24-26 February publishes an English editorial on page 6 which says, "Undoubtedly many South Africans of all races will welcome the Government's decision to declare all central business districts [CBDs] in the country's metropolitan cities as free trading areas for all races," because the decision is a step in the right direction. However, while the opening of the CBDs is welcomed, "it must be pointed out that people should refrain from shouting to high heaven with joy because the Government continues to retain the Group Areas Act, one of the cornerstones of apartheid."

Violence Not Answer to Public Grievances

An editorial in Zulu on page 6 on the school violence at KwaMashu and Umlazi schools over the issue of free stationary, says: "Only a dull-witted person would not recognize the flames of anger in our black youth today." The children are tired of being mistreated, "and their anger outweighs that of adults by a great measure." But youngsters must be taught to use anger constructively, it says. "Our youth should strongly heed our advice that excessive anger, properly directed, can provide a door to dialogue over any issue. Such dialogue will then help resolve the situation. Please speak and be heard! Violence is unnecessary."

De Jonge Case

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 28 February reports on its front page that South African officials said in reaction to a court decision saying that Klaas de Jonge, a fugitive at the Netherlands Embassy, would have to stand trial that de Jonge would " 'rot where he is' " or move out of the building and face charges. Diplomatic sources said that the fact that the charges were served to him through diplomatic channels showed South Africa intended to respect international law. They also said "it was highly unlikely that he would leave his sanctuary to stand trial."

Pretoria Councillor Resigns

The paper reports on page 3 that Pretoria Herstigte Nasionale Party [Reformed National Party, HNP] City Councillor Piet Rudolph, who caused a "major uproar" when he attempted to expel four coloreds from the public gallery, has resigned from the HNP "a jump ahead of expulsion from the party." Consideration was still being given to taking disciplinary steps against him for " 'injuring the dignity of the council.' "

CITIZEN on U.S. Interference

In its editorial on page 6, *THE CITIZEN* notes that the U.S. abandoned the shah of Iran and President Marcos when it was in its interests to do so and says "that is why we must never allow the United States to tell us what to do — or to interfere in our domestic affairs." This also applies to U.S. firms in South Africa. While it is fine for companies to adhere to the Sullivan code, General Motors' action in telling its employees it would pay for legal action in breaking beach apartheid is "going too far." Similarly, the paper is unhappy with Mobil's announcement that it was staying so as not to abandon its employees, saying the company should admit that "it's good business to be here" and should go on improving conditions for its workers. The paper also notes that Chase Manhattan had started the run on the rand and the American bankers were least willing to let the country off the hook in the debt talks. Citing the recent statement by the Samlan president on foreign pressure, the paper says: "Don't push us too far."

Mamelodi Wants Security Forces

"The Town Council of Pretoria's riot-torn Mamelodi black township has come out strongly in favor of continued security forces presence to counter a 'reign of terror' by young blacks," the paper reports on page 8. A spokesman asked for an end to the " 'acts of burning, killing and terror.' " " 'It is Mamelodi and our own people who are suffering because of this mindless violence. The Government does not suffer any loss' he said." " 'One is compelled to come to the conclusion that the reason why these elements insist on police withdrawal is to enable them to destroy human life by burning people alive. They want to be free to destroy property, and to perform various other criminal acts with impunity.' "

Bad Debts Increase

"A sharp increase in bad debts in the six months ended December 1985 is given as one of the main reasons for the decrease in the earnings of TrustBank from 15.8 c to 13.7 c a share," the paper reports on page 21. According to the managing director, " 'owing to the unprecendented economic downswing, the serious drought and poor rand exchange rate prevailing during the period under review, bad debts, in line with the experience of the whole banking sector, increased markedly.' " A director said, however, that "there are indications that the business conditions are starting to normalise and an improvement in the economic climate can be expected."

Soweto School Closed

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 28 February reports on page 1 that "a domestic incident threatens to divide Soweto's elite Pace Commercial College and disrupt the smooth running of the school," according to black teachers. The school was closed after the tires of an automobile belonging to one white teacher and automobile belonging to the school had been slashed. Black students and faculty protested the closure.

Alexandra Councillor Resigns

Also on its front page, the paper reports that Alexandra Councillor Thomas Molepo, "whose 14-year-old son died after allegedly being shot by police during the recent unrest in the township, has decided to resign from the town council." Molepo told the paper he would resign because of "pressure from his family and the conflict his membership of the council was causing among his relatives. Mr Molepo said his children were being isolated and could no longer walk freely in the township because he belonged to the council."

Talks With Mozambique

A report by John d'Oliveira of the paper's African News Service on the same page says that Foreign Minister Pik Botha's visit to Maputo this week has resulted in an agreement to resuscitate the joint security commission set up after the Nkomati Accord. Since MNR documents showing alleged RSA violations of the accord were captured, Mozambique has attacked South AFrica and the security commission has not met. Earlier South African efforts to " 'clear channels' " were rebuffed by the Mozambicans.

Terre Blanche's Dream

An article on page 6 of the Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 28 February by Peter Honey interviews Eugene Terre Blanche, leader of the rightwing Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB). Terre Blanche dreams of an Afrikaner state encompassing the Orange Free State, the Transvaal and northern Natal, which is "where the Afrikaner people are, where the Afrikaner heart lies." He says that power-sharing would destroy the Afrikaner way of life. He believes "the blacks will try to take all. The whites will fight for the land that is theirs. And the whites will win." When told he is out of touch with reality, Terre Blanche says that when white farmers reject P.W. Botha, he will have to yield to their will. While blacks would be allowed to work in the new republic under conditions set out by the government, the ideal would be to gradually shift them outside its borders. "We are not intersted in dividing people and sharing power," he says. Multinational corporations would have to pay fair taxes or face nationalization. There would be a no party political system in his state. "People would elect their leaders according to their skills and experience to a partyless volksraad [National Assembly], which will be controlled by an AWB chief executive." Jews, Indians or non-Christians could be permitted in the state but they would be excluded from government. " 'I don't think apartheid can work,' " he says. " 'You cannot decide for other groups what their futures should be. But this land —the Transvaal, Free State and northern Natal —was paid for in the blood, tears and bitter sweat of my forefathers. It is historically the land of the Boer Afrikaners to which they have a right and for which they will fight.' "

Real Incomes Crash

According to the South African Labour and Development Research Unit of the University of Cape Town, "real wages crashed in 1985 under the impact of inflation and the failure of employers to raise wages sufficiently," Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 1 March reports on page 7. The year was the worst for wages in at lease a decade. In real terms, 91 percent of laborers' minimum wages fell, 23 percent of labor job categories had no raise at all, and only 9 percent showed any wage increase.

Inflation Harms Maize Farmers

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 27 February says in an article on page 6 that inflation, regarded by most as a national enemy, has been the maize farmers' greatest enemy for some time. Inflation can be curbed if there is a national will to do so. "The maize industry is experiencing hyperinflation on the production side but has received very little attention and sympathy," says Dr Gous, chief executive of the National Maize Producers' Organization.

BEELD on Nkomati Accord

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrkiaans on 28 February says in an editorial on page 12 that "during the last few months there was reason to fear that the Nkomati Accord would not survive the tensions in southern Africa." The meeting this week between Pik Botha and Jacinto Veloso in Maputo has indicated that the accord could be saved. The OAU has pressured Mozambique to scrap the accord and since President Machel's visit to America there were signs of chilliness towards the accord on the part of Mozambique. Proposals by both sides to "strengthen" the accord confirms the suspicion that all is not well. Concluding, it says it is hoped that the tensions can be eliminated once and for all.

Activists' Homes Petrol Bombed

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 28 February reports on page 1 that "the homes of two more political activists were petrol-bombed in Atteridgeville, Pretoria — bringing to 10 the number of similar attacks in the township during the past two weeks." Local political groups have condemned the attacks and issued a statement noting " 'a number of people have been arrested for similar attacks on the homes of policemen and councillors. No efforts seem to have been made in our cases to bring the culprits to heel. This leaves us with great suspicion as to who is behind these attacks.' "

Fourth Trade Unionist Killed

Another front page report notes that one of the people killed by Lebowa police during unrest in Motetema last week was Lea van Gleaf Magutla, an active member of the Transport and Allied Workers Union. He is the fourth trade unionist to be killed by police recently.

Transvaal Labor Unrest

"A wave of strikes and labour disputes swept through several shop floors, including mine industries in the Transvaal this week," the paper reports on page 2. In addition to the strike by 12,000 miniers at the Vaal Reefs gold mine, management and workers were negotiating at Nampak Tissue Transvaal, the Polycel company in Alrode, the Plascon Paints factory near Krugersdorp, 3M in Elandsfontein, and E. Merck in Wynberg. The labor disputes were caused by demands for wage increases and protest against the dismissal of workers.

Government To Blame for 'Mess'

The "Joe's Burg" column on page 8 says that "the moderates, as the government wishes them to be known, are running out of ammunition. They are becoming more and more irrelevant in the present state of affairs." The government has only itself to blame for this "whole sorry mess." Parliament has proved "once and for all that apartheid is well and alive. Clearly the government is caught between having to satisfy the demands from their own constituency, their white opposition, and black demands. In the final analysis, they must do what is best for the country, not what is best for the National Party and the Afrikaner. The future belongs not to the Nats, but to all South Africans."

Lebowa Chief Minister's Car Stoned

"Lebowa Chief Minister Cedric Phathudi had to scramble for safety at a Seshego service station this week when angry students attacked his official car as he entered the township," Mudini Maivha reports on the front page of Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 2 March. Phatudi's car was stoned by students from three local schools who have been boycotting classes. It is not known if Phathudi was injured and Lebowa police were unable to confirm the incident.

CITY PRESS on Miners Strike

"Once again black miners have shaken us from our slumber," *CITY PRESS* says in an editorial on page 2. Athough the miners have returned to work, it has become clear "that the workers still have definite grievances — and that management isn't quite sure how to deal with them." "We urge mine houses and the authorities to take heed of what the miners are saying," the editorial concludes.

Slabbert Interviewed

Johannesburg *THE WEEKLY MAIL* in English for 28 Feb- 6 Mar carries a front-page report by Phillip van Niekerk on the paper's interview with former Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Fredrik van Zyl Slabbert. Slabbert said he believed peaceful change was no longer possible in South Africa; it was now a question of " 'how less violent the change would be.' " Slabbert added that the only way to keep the level of violence down " 'would be for the government to commit itself unequivocally to scrapping apartheid.' " He also said "State President P.W. Botha had reached the limit of his capability to reform and that the military had a very heavy influence in running the country."

Separate Amenities Act To Go

Jean le May reports on page 2 that the Separate Amenities Act is expected to be replaced with legislation calling for "a 'private option' for local authorities in the management of facilities." However, amendments to ordinances introduced in the Cape Town and East London City Councils this week will allow the administrator of the Cape Provice to summarily dismiss city councillors and/or dock their pay. A PFP member of the council said he believed the amendments "had been introduced because the East London and Cape Town City Councils had opened their beaches to all races in defiance of the Seperate Amenities Act." The amendments are seen as a way of enforcing the Cape administrator's authority once the act has been repealed.

Racial Stereotypes, Violence

In an article on page 8, Franz Auerbach, an educator and former president of the South African Institute of Race Relations, says that 1,200 people have died in 18 months of unrest, adding "if I were black, the figure of 1,200 dead in civil unrest, two-thirds of them at the hand of the forces of law and order, might start looking like attempted genocide. I firmly believe it is not; it is the result of applying a military solution to a problem that is unlikely to have a military solution: it needs a political soltution." Although there would have been an outcry had those killed been white, racial stereotypes about blacks have made the violence easier to accept, Auerbach says. "Because so many whites have a stereotype about black people not being humans quite like themselves it becomes easier to make excuses: Police have to shoot because black people easily run amok, invent horrible executions like the 'necklace', and so on. Therefore, according to this argument, it's regretable that so many have died, but somehow it's to be expected because the riotous behaviour that led to their deaths is 'typical of them.' " Racial stereotypes in South Africa "are helping to destroy peace and public order, mutual trust and civilised values."

Doctors Not Demanding Patients' Names

Barbara Ludman reports on page 9 that doctors at the Alexandra Health Center and University Clinic are no longer insisting that patients give their names and addresses since the clinic's records were seized by police. Hospitals under the Department of Hospital Services continue to require names and addresses, but a department representative said "the department supported the concept of the confidentiality of doctor-patient relations."

Intensification of ANC Armed Struggle

"The intensification of 'armed struggle' threatened by the outlawed African National Congress at the beginning of the year is already manifest. The rate of attacks has risen by last year — whether by guerrillas or 'young comrades,' as the youthful township radicals with only rudimentary, if any, training in guerrilla warfare have dubbed themselves," Patrick Laurence writes on pages 14 and 15. In addition to "the rising tempo" of attacks, the use of relatively sophisticated weapons, such as the landmine, is increasing. The landmine that wrecked a casspir in Mamelodi, in addition to reflecting the government's neglect of the township by ignoring the dirt roads, shows the "growing coalescence between actions of externally-trained guerrillas and internally-based dissidents." The shootout between ANC members and police in a Port Elizabeth township, in which two ANC members were killed and two policemen wounded, "depicts another important shift: an attempt by ANC cadres to move back in the Eastern Cape, where black resistance has been most systematically organised."

ZAMBIA

White RSA Man Arrested With Rifle, Mine

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[Text] It is reported that police in Zambia have arrested a white South African man armed with a rifle and a landmine near the Zambia-Zaire border. A Zambian newspaper says the man, indentified as David Fritwell, was arrested 2 weeks ago near the border town of Solwezi. Police sources say Mr Fritwell is being questioned about what he was doing in Zambia with the arms. No other details are available.